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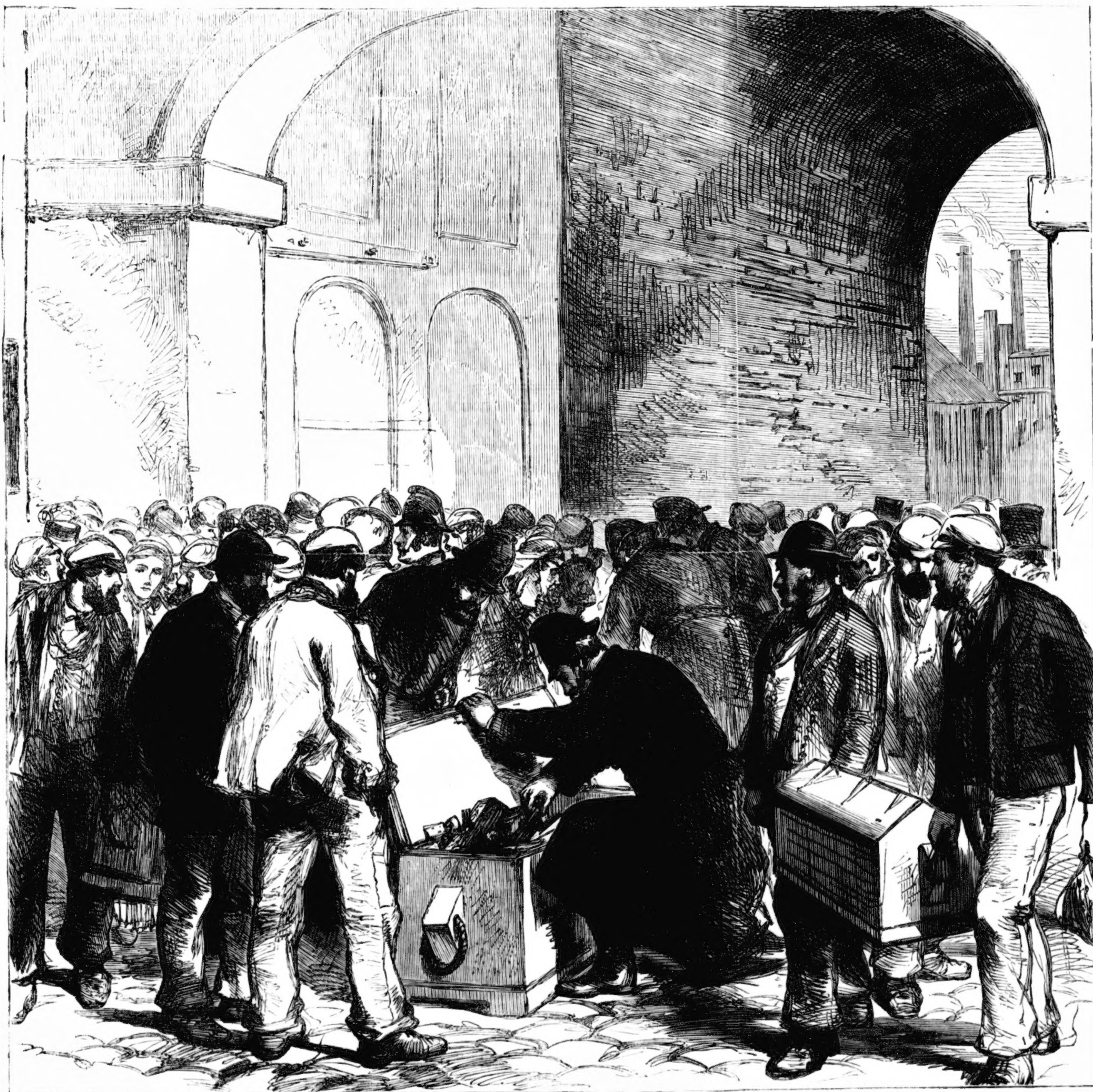
THE DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS.

It would be difficult, we fancy, for even the keenest partisans to get up a warm debate over such very neutral-tinted documents as Royal Messages have become in these days—that is, without travelling beyond the strict letter of the record. And yet a Royal Speech at the opening of the Parliamentary Session is a pregnant missive; but then it is so, not from what it says, but by what it suggests. The topics to be dealt with legislatively are indicated merely; nothing whatever is said as to *how* they are to be handled.

The diseased parts of the body politic are pointed out, sometimes rather vaguely; but no hint is given of the nature of the remedial measures intended to be adopted. The faulty planks in the State ship are "spotted," if we may use an expressive though slangy term; but neither the material to be substituted for said faulty planks, nor the plan of operations to be adopted, is described. All that is left to be developed when Ministers introduce their bills; and party politicians are reduced to this alternative: they must either be silent, and wait; or criticise the past, and endeavour

to discover, if they can, what bearing it may chance to have upon the present.

This last was the course adopted by the Opposition leaders in both Houses of Parliament on Tuesday evening—with what effect every reader of the daily papers can judge for himself. Little need be said of what passed in the Upper House; indeed, what passes there, on such an occasion, has ceased to be of vital importance. It is at the end, not at the beginning, of a Session that their Lordships' action is of moment; and they know it. Hence,



CHATHAM DOCKYARD: SEARCHING TOOL-CHESTS OF DISCHARGED WORKMEN.

Lord Cairns's attack on the Ministerial position was weak; and Lord Granville's defence feeble in proportion. The Commons' House was the scene of the prelude to the coming war, if real fighting there is to be. But we need be in no fear of a dull Session. There will be plenty of brisk skirmishing, and probably a few pitched battles. We may be sure of that. And certainly, if "peace profound shall reign" in spheres Parliamentary during the next six months, it will not be for lack of matter for discussion. There will be ample scope for difference and for debate. Ministers have drawn up a sufficiently comprehensive, and perhaps a sufficiently provocative, programme of measures to afford full employment for both Houses, as well as to enable grounds of dispute to be made out of the Government proposals if they cannot be legitimately found *within* them. And this would seem to be the line of policy contemplated by the Opposition, judging from the keynote struck by Mr. Disraeli on Tuesday evening.

Ireland was the theme; and Mr. Disraeli, of course, was ingenious, sarcastic, amusing, extravagant, and (which need not be of course) shallow. The right hon. gentleman's rhetoric on this, as on most other occasions, was much more prominent than his logic. He painted a series of striking pictures; but he failed to show what connection one tableau had with another. Ireland, Mr. Disraeli tells us, is disquieted from two causes: first, the Government's way of dealing with the Fenian prisoners; and, second, by the "riotous hallucination" of hope inspired in the Irish peasantry on the subject of the promised land bill. But how does it come about that a "partial" act of clemency to the Fenian convicts, as Mr. Disraeli describes it—or a "discriminating" act of mercy, as Mr. Gladstone calls it—should lead to the murder of Irish landlords and their agents, who have had nothing to do with either retaining the Fenians in prison or setting them free? Still more difficult is it to understand how men inspired by hope should adopt the action of despair. If the Irish peasantry are labouring under a "riotous hallucination" in their expectations of what the Government is going to do for them as touching the land—if they look to have the soil of Ireland made over to them—if they expect their position to be changed from that of mere tillers of the soil into the happier one of owners thereof—if they believe that the present proprietors are about to be dispossessed of their property for the benefit of their tenants—why should they take the trouble of killing those landlords in the meanwhile?—why should they act in such a way as must be sure to frustrate the realisation of their hopes and effectually dissipate their fond "hallucination"? Irish peasants are not generally believed to be very wise; but they are surely not such fools as the Conservative leader would have us suppose. Mr. Disraeli's premises and his conclusions do not hang together; the effects he describes, and the causes he assigns for them, lack connection one with another; and hence we say that his diagnosis of the Irish malady is shallow, and that his rhetoric is more conspicuous than his logic.

The sources of that malady, as we believe, lie deeper. The causes of agrarian outrage, we think, must be looked for far beyond either Fenian agitation or Ministerial promises: they are to be sought for in the tone of thought, in the habits, the character, and the style of action induced in the Irish people by centuries of wrong, injustice, and degradation; and are not likely to be removed all at once by one act of justice, or even by many. This can only be done, if done at all, by experience of righteous legislation, and the conviction thereby induced that Ireland's welfare is being cared for now in a way and to a degree that she has never known since Strongbow and his companions landed on her shores. The process of reclamation from a reckless and law-defying to a peaceful and law-abiding spirit, may be—probably will be—slow; but, if persevered in, will, we feel persuaded, be sure. If it has taken centuries to make the Irishman what he is, need we wonder if he be not totally changed in one short year—yes, or in ten or in fifty? Bad legislation and still worse government, let us hope, are at an end in Ireland; but their baleful effects are present with us still, and must be endured. The ghosts of ancient oppressions naturally rise up to trouble us at a time like this, when the dry bones of all iniquities are being shaken; and it will take some time ere they be effectually laid. But as England once persevered in wrong, let her now persevere in right; and as she succeeded in perverting Irishmen by the one course, she may hope to reclaim them by the other.

This, we believe, is the course Mr. Gladstone's Government intends to pursue, taking care, meanwhile, to preserve peace and protect life and property, so as to give the novel experiment of real "justice to Ireland" fair play; and for that reason we think them entitled to public support. That this line of policy should be as gall and wormwood to Fenian and other agitators we can easily understand; for through its influence the agitator's occupation, power, and importance will be taken from him. Hence it may be true, but not in Mr. Disraeli's sense, that Fenianism may have something to do with the disturbed state of Ireland—if Ireland be really more disturbed now than has been her wont, which we doubt; for the Fenian leaders know that with the growth of a sense of justice, and consequent peace and prosperity among the Irish peasantry, their power for mischief will diminish and finally disappear. For such a consummation all true patriots will not only devoutly pray but earnestly labour; and Mr. Disraeli's promised, and valuable, aid in the good work shall be gladly accepted, if it be but unflinchingly rendered.

Touching the alleged disturbed state of Ireland and the

common assumption, echoed by both Lord Cairns and Mr. Disraeli, that agrarian crimes have recently been of unusual prevalence, it is of moment that the true state of affairs should be known; and it is not a little singular that official statistics are strongly at variance with the common belief on this point; so far, at least, as the returns are yet published. Agrarian outrages seem to bulk largely; but that arises, in a great measure, from the fact that all murders in rural districts are at first set down as "agrarian." Subsequent investigation often proves this to be a mistake; but the original impression remains, and the rectification is unheeded. Lord Cairns, for instance, stated on Tuesday that eighteen agrarian assassinations had occurred in Ireland in 1869. Dr. Neilson Hancock, however, the official registrar of crime in Ireland, whom Lord Cairns himself describes as an "eminent statistician," says that the total number of murders reported last year by the Irish police was thirty-one, only six of which were stated to be agrarian. Two agrarian manslaughters were also reported—making eight such crimes altogether; not eighteen, as Lord Cairns declared. That any crimes of an agrarian or any other character are committed, is of course to be deplored; as is also the fact that it is difficult to obtain convictions of criminals in Ireland. That last feature, however, is not peculiar to the country in 1869; it has always existed. To go no further back than 1868, when Lord Cairns and his friends were in office, it appears that twenty-two persons were tried for murder, and not one convicted. Crime generally, moreover, is much less prevalent, in proportion to population, than it is in England and Wales, as was proved by some statistical returns published in our columns a few weeks ago. Indeed, it is highly consoling to know that, with occasional fluctuations, the number of Irish murders is rapidly decreasing. Taking periods of five years from 1828, we have the following results:—From 1829-33 1676 persons were tried for murder, 152 sentenced to death, and 103 executed; in 1834-38, the number tried for murder was 1588, of whom 131 were sentenced to death and 75 executed; in 1839-43, the numbers were 851 tried, 85 sentenced, and 28 executed; in 1844-48, the numbers were 631 tried, 104 sentenced, and 47 executed; in 1849-53, we have 543 tried, 81 sentenced, and 33 executed; in 1854-58, we have 226 tried, 24 sentenced, and 9 executed; in 1859-63, we have 175 tried, 18 sentenced, and 11 executed; in 1864-68, the figures are 110 tried, 16 sentenced, and 8 executed. These figures, let us mention, are given on the authority of Lord Cairns's "eminent statistician," Dr. Neilson Hancock; and, as we think, go far to discredit the prevalent idea that Ireland is pre-eminently a disorderly and criminal-producing country. Irishmen are not saints, and they certainly have a most reprehensible tendency to revenge what they deem agrarian wrongs by perpetrating agrarian outrages; but let them not be made out, even in this respect, greater sinners than they really are. Crime of all kinds is more rife in Ireland, by a long way, than it ought to be; but so is it everywhere else; and we wish all other parts of the kingdom could show as satisfactory a bill of moral health as poor maligned Hibernia.

DISCHARGED WORKMEN AT CHATHAM DOCKYARD.

THE new arrangements in connection with the Royal Dockyards have involved the discharge of considerable numbers of workmen, while others have been transferred to those of the national establishments that are still maintained in full operation. Chatham Dockyard, although not absolutely closed like Deptford and Woolwich, is one of the yards where reductions have been made, and consequently very considerable numbers of workmen have had to be discharged. The discharged men include shipwrights, caulkers, labourers, &c.; and, on their quitting the yard for good, their tool-chests are carefully searched by the police at the gateway, just under the arch. About half a dozen policemen are engaged in this work, and the method adopted is this: the chests being generally about 3 ft. long, 2 ft. wide, and 1 ft. 6 in. deep, they always contain too great a weight to be carried by less than four men; consequently three others are permitted to leave off work an hour or half an hour before the usual time in order to assist a departing "matey;" and as several departures often take place at once, it happens that a very considerable crowd congregates in presence of the search-constables under the gateway. The scene thus presented is depicted in one of our Engravings, while the gateway itself is shown in another. The costume of the men varies according to individual tastes, but has usually a reference to the branch of work in which they are engaged. Thus, shipwrights are mostly attired in moleskin trousers (most frequently bespattered with patches of tar), a peaked cap or high hat (decidedly worse for wear), and at this time of year a reefing-jacket, or long great-coat, or a round jacket of the same material as the trousers. The caulkers, of whom large numbers have been discharged, dress much the same as shipwrights, with the exception of the jacket, which is made of blue "dangaree" (same sort of stuff as butchers' smocks), and has two rows of buttons in front, not less than twenty-five in each row. The labourers (generally in considerable numbers) dress in every possible style, and their stock-in-trade is easily carried in a bundle. The Royal arms over the gateway is in plaster, and looks old-fashioned. The date is 1720. The belfry is painted white, and the wheel and bell black.

DANGEROUS LUGGAGE.—On a train reaching Stafford—a station at which all the passengers had to change—on Saturday night, two stone bottles, each capable of holding about two gallons, were lifted out of the luggage-van by a porter on to the platform. Suddenly one of the bottles exploded and covered two porters with a burning fluid, which destroyed their clothing and seriously injured them. One man lost the sight in his eyes, and is not expected to recover, while the other is much burnt about the legs. The owner of the bottles—who, after some prevarication, said his name was Early, and came from Norwich—was taken into custody. There were no labels to indicate that the bottles contained a dangerous fluid.

CORNISH LITIGATION.—We note, with a kind of grim smile of satisfaction at the vitality of Cornish litigation, that the case of "Lyle v. Richards and Others," has once more put in an appearance in the Court of Queen's Bench. This action was first tried at Bodmin in 1858, and upon a rule made its way slowly and surely through the Queen's Bench and Exchequer Chamber to the House of Lords, where judgment was delivered on June 22, 1866. That judgment left an issue of fact for decision, and upon this point there was a reference to the arbitration of a learned Queen's Counsel. The Court of Queen's Bench has now granted a rule to set aside the award. The whole dispute is as to a boundary line, and the land claimed by each party is a triangular plot with a base of thirty yards, being the surface covering of a copper mine. The expenses of the suit have far exceeded the value of the ore, but the hope of costs and the horror of defeat keep the battle raging.—*Law Journal.*

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

M. Rochefort was arrested on Monday night as he was about to attend a public meeting. He made no resistance, but one of his friends, M. Flourens, drew a sword, and fired, it is said, two or three shots from a revolver. No one is, however, reported to be wounded. The Commissary of Police, having dissolved the meeting which M. Rochefort meant to attend, was very roughly handled and threatened with death. Ultimately the police rescued him. During the night barricades were thrown up in various parts of Paris; but, troops and police having been called out, no further disorders occurred. About two hundred arrests were made.

In the Chamber, on Tuesday, the subject of the arrest was brought forward by M. de Kératry, who asked why M. Rochefort had not been taken into custody on leaving the Chamber. M. Ollivier and M. Chevandier de Valdrôme, in reply, stated that, had this been done, he would have been rescued by his friends, who were waiting outside by arrangement, in anticipation of this step being taken. The police were unable to follow him, and when they went to his house he was not at home. Meanwhile, at the meeting he was about to attend, an insurrection was determined on, and the signal was to be given on his arrival. The authorities resolved, therefore, to arrest M. Rochefort beforehand. The Ministers also stated that eight barricades had been erected, and a gunsmith's shop pillaged, but that the people of Paris were with the Government, and that, if the latter were to use force, the agitation would not last five minutes. The Chamber, after hearing these statements, passed to the order of the day. One hundred and fifty arrests in all are said to have been made. During Tuesday no fresh disturbances occurred in Paris, and the authorities took special precautions for preserving order at night.

On Tuesday night a crowd, consisting of a few hundred persons, besides a large number of lookers on, assembled in the streets of Marseilles, sang the "Marseillaise" and hissed the gendarmes. The latter bore the provocation quietly, but, after a fruitless summons had been made to the mob to disperse, a considerable number of arrests were made. After the prisoners had been examined by the magistrate, all but thirty were released.

The ball which was to have been given on Wednesday evening at the Tuilleries has been countermanded, in consequence of the Empress being rather unwell.

On the recommendation of the Minister of the Interior a committee has been appointed for the purpose of investigating the subject of the future municipal government of Paris. The inhabitants of the capital have at present no voice in the management of their local affairs, and it is this grievance which has now to be redressed.

Serious complaints having recently been made against M. Leverrier, the Director of the Paris Observatory, by other officials of that scientific institution, M. Leverrier has been removed by Imperial decree from his post, and the duties of administration intrusted to a commission of three members. Two years ago similar complaints were made, and a committee of inquiry was instituted. The committee decided against M. Leverrier, and recommended that the Observatory should be reorganised. Nothing, however, appears to have been done in the interval to give effect to these views.

SPAIN.

Rumours appear to be circulating in Madrid that Prince George of Saxony is about to be brought forward as a candidate for the Spanish Crown; but a telegram from Dresden says that nothing is known of the matter there in the "best-informed circles."

In the Cortes, on Tuesday, a member of the Government read a despatch from Havannah, dated the 6th inst., announcing that there have been two engagements, in both of which the insurgents were beaten.

Full powers have been dispatched to the Spanish Minister at Washington to sign the treaties already concluded between Spain and the South American Republics.

ITALY.

The Florence *Nazione* announces that it is to be prosecuted for publishing a recent letter of Mazzini, in which he declined an invitation sent to him by some French Republicans to attend a dinner at St. Maude, on the anniversary of the death of Louis XVI. In this letter some of the well-known political views of the writer found expression, and the *Nazione*, by merely reproducing those views, is placed in exactly the position it would occupy had it adopted them. The singular circumstance in connection with the case is, that the paper is a staunch monarchical organ and a determined opponent of Mazzini.

ROME.

The *Civiltà Cattolica* publishes an article headed, "Bad Politicians and the Council," in which it treats of the menaces uttered by certain politicians, especially in Catholic countries, in view of the possibility of the Council enacting dogmatic decrees or disciplinary regulations contrary to the spirit of modern times. It declares that these threats will be treated by the Bishops with contempt, and adds, "If the civil Governments make laws contrary to the decrees of the Council, those laws will be radically null and void, and will in no way compel the consciences of their subjects. To enforce compliance with them would be to commit a most criminal act of tyranny. If the Governments separate the Church from the State they will cause terrible revolutions, by which they themselves will be overthrown." In conclusion, the *Civiltà Cattolica* praises Count Daru, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, for having openly declared in the Senate that the French Government respected the liberty of the Church; and it speaks in high terms of France, as being almost the only country in Europe that has remained faithful to its Concordat with Rome during the last seventy years. "France," says the *Civiltà Cattolica*, "may rely that the Council will take this loyalty on her part into account."

A correspondent at Rome states that Mgr. Dupanloup has determined to bring before the Council the abuses and oppressions practised by the temporal Government of the Papacy. The Court of Rome will forbid the discussion, denying the right of the Council to interfere with its temporal administration; but the Bishop insists that the Papacy is as much subject to the Fathers in one aspect as the other. As he is distinguished for his strenuous support of the principle of the temporal power, this assertion has produced a deep impression; and, though the Ultrarights affirm that his motion will only hasten the dogmatic proclamation of the Papal sovereignty, the Vatican is more troubled than is suffered to appear.

AUSTRIA.

In Monday's sitting of the Lower House of the Reichsrath Herr Rechbauer moved and spoke in support of a resolution proposing the abolition of the Concordat and the introduction of marriage by civil contract. After some discussion the motion was referred to a committee of fifteen, a course which was advocated by the Government and the Polish members of the House. The Chamber then approved, without discussion, the commercial convention between England and Austria.

THE UNITED STATES.

The Senate, by 33 votes against 24, has rejected President Grant's appointment of Mr. Hoar as one of the Justices of the Supreme Court.

In the House of Representatives on Monday a resolution declaring it to be unauthorised by the Constitution and injurious to the industrial interests of the country to levy duties for any purpose other than for revenue exclusively, and that the duties on no articles should be greater than those giving a maximum of revenue, was laid on the table by a vote of 89 to 77, showing an apparent protectionist majority of 12. The tariff bill is made a special order in the House for Feb. 16.

The Supreme Court has decided that all contracts made prior to 1862 are payable in coin. It is generally considered that this

decision does not affect the constitutionality of the Legal Tender Act.

Mr. Peabody was buried on Wednesday, at Peabody, Massachusetts. The remains were removed from the Peabody Institute, where they had lain in state since the 2nd inst., to the Congregational Church. Here, after the usual religious ceremonies, the Hon. Robert C. Winthrop delivered an eloquent address highly eulogistic of the virtues of the deceased. The remains were then borne to the Harmony-grove Cemetery, near the town, followed by the relatives, Prince Arthur and suite, Mr. Thornton (the British Minister), Admiral Farragut, Captain Commerell, and other British and American naval officers, the Governors of Maine and Massachusetts, the officers of numerous educational institutions endowed by the deceased, and delegations from several State Legislatures and municipalities. The funeral procession comprised over 200 carriages and 5000 persons on foot. Prince Arthur departed in the afternoon for Montreal direct.

CANADA.

The Newfoundland Legislature was opened on the 2nd inst. A motion of want of confidence in the Ministry was carried by 21 votes against 8, the majority being opposed and the minority favourable to confederation with Canada. The House then requested the Lieutenant-Governor to call upon Mr. Charles Fox Bennett to form a new Ministry.

Canadian advices represent that the prospect of affairs at the Red River is brightening. An official of the Hudson's Bay Company has been appointed by the Government to inquire into the cause of the insurrection; and it has been resolved, with the assent of the insurgent commander-in-chief, that a convention of French and English inhabitants shall be held to determine what course will best promote the interests of the country.

MEXICO.

A rebellion has broken out in Mexico, and intelligence has reached New York that the Government troops were defeated on Jan. 14, with a loss of twenty cannon, by the insurgents, near San Luis Potosi.

CANONS OF THE ROMAN CHURCH.

AMONG the propositions submitted to the Council by the preliminary commissions was a series of dogmatic formulas. The first twenty-one of these are issued, and of these canons the following is a translation:—

THE CHURCH OF CHRIST.

Canon 1. Whosoever says that the religion of Christ is not existing and expressed in any community established by Christ himself, but that it can be rightly held and exercised by each individual for himself, and without regard to any community which constitutes the Church of Christ, let him be anathema.

Canon 2. Whosoever says the Church has not received from Christ any positive and unchangeable organisation, but that it is, just like any other human community, mutable and transformable according to the changes of the times, let him be anathema.

Canon 3. Whosoever says the Church of Divine Promises is not an external and visible community, but a purely internal and invisible one, let him be anathema.

Canon 4. Whosoever says that the true Church is not a body in itself, but consists of different and dispersed denominations, and is diffused throughout them all; or that the different communities opposed to each other in their professions of faith, and divided in their spirit, equally form members or parts of the one common Church of Christ, let him be anathema.

Canon 5. Whosoever says that the Church of Christ is not an institution absolutely necessary for reaching eternal happiness, or that men can arrive at this blessing through the exercise of any other kind of religion, let him be anathema.

Canon 6. Whosoever says that the authority with which the Catholic Church proscribes and condemns all religious sects separated from its communion is not prescribed by Divine right; or that about religious truths only opinions, not certainties, can exist, and that therefore all religious sects are to be tolerated, let him be anathema.

Canon 7. Whosoever says that this very Church of Christ can fall into darkness or error, or so deviate from the Holy Truth in faith and morals, and fall away from its original institution into depravity and corruption, let him be anathema.

Canon 8. Whosoever says that the present Church of Christ is not the last and highest institution for reaching eternal happiness, but that there is another to be expected through a new and more complete effusion of the Holy Spirit, let him be anathema.

Canon 9. Whosoever says that the infallibility of the Church is restricted only to things contained in the Divine Revelation, but is not extended to other truths which are necessary to the integral maintenance of the Revelation, let him be anathema.

Canon 10. Whosoever says that the Church is not a perfect institution, but merely a corporation, or that it is of such a nature, with regard to civil society or the State, as to be subject to temporal power, let him be anathema.

Canon 11. Whosoever says that the Church, Divinely instituted, is like a society of equals, and that the Bishops, having offices and duties, possess no governmental power bestowed upon them by Divine right and which they can freely exercise, let him be anathema.

Canon 12. Whosoever says that Christ our Saviour and Sovereign has conferred upon the Church the power to direct only by advice and persuasion those who turn aside, not to compel them by orders, by coercion, and by external penalties and statutory punishments, let him be anathema.

Canon 13. Whosoever says that the true Church of Christ, out of which there is no salvation, is any other than the Holy Catholic and Roman Apostolic Church, let him be anathema.

Canon 14. Whosoever says that the holy Apostle Peter was not appointed by Christ as the first of the apostles, and as the visible head of the whole Church militant, or that he had only the honorary supremacy, but not the true and real jurisdiction, let him be anathema.

Canon 15. Whosoever says that it is not according to Christ's own will that St. Peter has permanent successors in his supremacy over the whole Church, or that the Roman Pope is not the successor of Peter in this primacy by Divine right, let him be anathema.

Canon 16. Whosoever says that the Roman Pope has only the office of superintendence and direction, not the highest and fullest power of jurisdiction over the whole Church, or that this power is not direct and legitimate over the whole of the various Churches, let him be anathema.

Canon 17. Whosoever says that the independent Church authority, as established by the Catholic Church, and bestowed upon her by Christ, and the supreme civil power cannot exist together, so as to preserve the due rights of both, let him be anathema.

Canon 18. Whosoever says that the power necessary for the government of a civil State does not emanate from God, or that one is not bound by Divine law to submit himself to such power, or that such power is repugnant to the natural liberty of men, let him be anathema.

Canon 19. Whosoever says that all rights existing between men arise from the political state, and that there is no other authority besides that so constituted, let him be anathema.

Canon 20. Whosoever says that the supreme rule for public and social conduct is in the law of the political State, or in the public opinion of men, or that the judgments of the Church concerning what is lawful and unlawful do not extend to such actions, or that there may be something allowed by civil rights that is not allowed by Church rights, let him be anathema.

Canon 21. Whosoever says that the laws of the Church have no binding power, except so far as they are confirmed by the sanction of the civil power, or that this civil power has the right, consequent on its high authority, to pronounce judgment or decisions in matters of religion, let him be anathema.

THE ELECTION JUDGES.—Baron Bramwell has returned from a lengthened visit to Egypt. Being one of the three Election Judges, he has thus pleasantly spent the leisure which the lack of petitions has provided for the fortunate trio, who for four years in five will have nothing to do. Certainly a more improvident arrangement than the creation of three perpetual Judges for work that will occupy about three months once in five years was never made by a Legislature. As a matter of fact, however, the Judges are too conscientious to avail themselves of their exemption to its full extent. —*London Times*.

THE GERMAN GAMING-TABLES.—As all public gaming-tables in the North German Confederation will be closed in 1872, the Government of Baden has resolved to prolong the leases of those within its power till that date, after which they will be entirely done away with. In order to provide Baden with a sufficient fund to carry out improvements when it has been deprived of one of the chief sources of its revenue, the rent paid by the proprietor of the tables has been raised, for 1871 and 1872, from 300,000 fl. a year to 500,000 fl. Besides this he has undertaken to expend 200,000 fl. in the two years on improvements, such as waterworks, and the construction of hothouses, and to raise the annual subscription of the theatre from 4000 fl. to 8000 fl. By these means it is hoped that the reserve fund will be increased till it amounts to 1,000,000 thalers in 1872. The new steam-bath at Baden is to cost 800,000 fl., of which 299,732 florins have already been expended. Besides this a water bath is to be erected at Wildbad for 350,000 fl.

THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

THE second Session of the eighth Parliament of the Queen was opened, on Tuesday afternoon, with the scant ceremonial of a "Royal Commission." But, although the proceedings indoors were, under these circumstances, neither grand nor imposing in their nature, the event itself appeared to excite a good deal of interest without the walls of the Palace of Westminster. Despite the cold, steady drizzle which marred the weather during the early part of the afternoon, a very considerable crowd assembled in the streets leading to Palace-yard to watch the arrival of members; and Westminster Hall itself was nearly half filled by a similarly interested but more select gathering of spectators. Some of these were, no doubt, habitual frequenters of the courts of law, which are now in "full swing;" but the number of the ordinary loungers in the vicinity of the "Hall of Rufus" was very materially increased by ladies and gentlemen for whom the whole interest centred in the appearance of peers and members of the Lower House. Beyond the entrance to St. Stephen's Hall there was nothing approaching to crowding; and those who were permitted to advance so far into the Legislative Palace were all at their leisure to notice and criticise the alterations which have been made during the recess in the great central hall.

Within the House of Lords there was but a small attendance of visitors, and a very unusual absence of peers. The Strangers' Gallery itself was, indeed, pretty well filled with ladies and gentlemen, and some two or three dozen peeresses and their daughters occupied seats in the body of the House. These more distinguished visitors were, however, much fewer in number than has often been the case, even when the Queen herself has not been present; and, in consequence no doubt of the unsettled and unsatisfactory state of the weather, the toilettes were by no means so brilliant or so varied as we have been accustomed to witness. Both upon the benches and in the gallery furs and velvets had greatly the advantage of silks and satins. Bonnets were as a rule of dark colours, and the general effect was decidedly rich rather than brilliant. As we have already intimated, there were even fewer peers in their places than usual, and of these about one half were representatives of the spiritual branch of the Legislature.

Almost the first peer to make his appearance, indeed, was the Bishop of London, and he was speedily followed by the prelates who preside over the dioceses of Gloucester and Rochester. Lord Redesdale, the Chairman of Committees, was the next to arrive, and not long afterwards the new Bishop of Winchester—whom we have hardly yet got out of the way of calling the Bishop of Oxford—entered the house in his robes, and for a minute or two took his place upon the episcopal bench. But the right reverend prelate had not yet taken his seat which attaches to his new see; and, although he remained in the house until the arrival of the Lord Chancellor, he left it before the commencement of the proceedings, and only returned after the Queen's speech had been delivered and the members of the House of Commons had returned to their own chamber. Almost precisely at two o'clock, the Lord Chancellor entered in his peer's robes, and, attended by his mace-bearer and purse-bearer, as well as by Colonel Clifford, the Yeoman Usher of the Black Rod, advanced up the floor to the woolsack. The mace and purse were deposited by their bearers upon that historic seat; and the noble and learned Lord left the house, only to return almost immediately, accompanied by the other Commissioners, Earl De Grey and Ripon, the Earl of Bessborough, the Earl of Kimberley, and Viscount Sydney.

These noble Lords, who were attired in the heavy robes of scarlet and gold which on such occasions the representatives of the Sovereign are compelled to wear, took their seats on the bench placed for their accommodation in front of the throne, and the brief proceedings at once commenced. First, Colonel Clifford was dispatched to the House of Commons to require the attendance of the members of the Lower Chamber; and in a very short time the gallant officer reappeared at the bar of the House, accompanied by the Speaker (Mr. Denison), the Sergeant-at-Arms (Lord C. Russell), and a very large proportion of the 200 or 300 members who had come down to attend the opening of Parliament, and among whom the only representatives of the Government were Mr. Stanfield and Mr. Glyn, joint Secretaries of the Treasury.

Then the Commission, addressed to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and other peers, was read at the table by the "reading" clerk of the House, and as soon as this formal business was concluded, the Lord Chancellor delivered the following

ROYAL MESSAGE:—

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,—

We have it in command from her Majesty again to invite you to resume your arduous duties, and to express the regret of her Majesty that recent indisposition has prevented her from meeting you in person, as had been her intention, at a period of remarkable public interest.

The friendly sentiments which are entertained in all quarters towards this country, and which her Majesty cordially reciprocates; the growing disposition to resort to the good offices of allies in cases of international difference, and the conciliatory spirit in which several such cases have recently been treated and determined, encourage her Majesty's confidence in the continued maintenance of the general tranquillity.

Papers will be laid before you with reference to recent occurrences in New Zealand.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,—

The Estimates for the services of the approaching financial year are in a forward state of preparation. Framed with a view, in the first place, to the effective maintenance of the public establishments, they will impose a diminished charge upon the subjects of her Majesty.

The condition of the revenue has answered to the expectations which were formed during the past Session.

Her Majesty trusts that you will be disposed to carry to its completion the inquiry which you last year instituted into the mode of conducting Parliamentary and municipal elections, and thus to prepare the materials of useful and early legislation.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,—

It will be proposed to you to amend the laws respecting the occupation and acquisition of land in Ireland in a manner adapted to the peculiar circumstances of that country, and calculated, as her Majesty believes, to bring about improved relations between the several classes concerned in Irish agriculture, which collectively constitute the great bulk of the people. These provisions, when matured by your impartiality and wisdom, as her Majesty trusts, will tend to inspire among persons with whom such sentiments may still be wanting that steady confidence in the law, and that desire to render assistance in its effective administration, which mark her subjects in general; and thus will aid in consolidating the fabric of the Empire.

We are further directed by her Majesty to state that many other subjects of public importance appear to demand your care, and, among these, especially to inform you that a bill has been prepared for the enlargement, on a comprehensive scale, of the means of national education.

In fulfilment of an engagement to the Government of the United States, a bill will be proposed to you for the purpose of defining the status of subjects or citizens of foreign countries who may desire naturalisation, and of aiding them in the attainment of that object.

You will further be invited to consider bills, prepared in compliance with the Report of the Commission on Courts of Judicature, for the improvement of the constitution and procedure of the superior tribunals of both original and appellate jurisdiction.

The question of religious tests in the Universities and Colleges of Oxford and Cambridge has been under discussion for many years. Her Majesty recommends such a legislative settlement of this question as may contribute to extend the usefulness of these great institutions, and to lighten the respect with which they are justly regarded.

Bills have been prepared for extending the incidence of rating, and for placing the collection of the large sums locally raised for various purposes on a simple and uniform footing.

Her Majesty has likewise to recommend that you should undertake the amendment of the laws which regulate the grant of licenses for the sale of fermented and spirituous liquors.

Measures will also be brought under your consideration for facilitating the transfer of land, for regulating the succession to real property in case of intestacy, for amending the laws as to the disabilities of members of trade combinations, and for both consolidating and improving the body of statutes which relate to merchant shipping.

While commending to you these weighty matters of legislation, her Majesty commands us to add that the recent extension of agrarian crime in several parts of Ireland, with its train of accompanying evils, has filled her Majesty with painful concern.

The Executive Government has employed freely the means at its command for the prevention of outrage, and a partial improvement may be observed; but although the number of offences within this class of crime has been by no means so great as at some former periods, the indisposition to give evidence in aid of the administration of justice has been alike remarkable and injurious.

For the removal of such evils her Majesty places her main reliance on the permanent operation of wise and necessary changes in the law. Yet she will not hesitate to recommend to you the adoption of special provisions, should such a policy appear during the course of the Session to be required by the paramount interest of peace and order.

Upon these and all other subjects her Majesty devoutly prays that your labours may be constantly attended by the blessing of Almighty God.

At the close of the Speech, the Speaker and the members of the House of Commons left the bar and returned to their own chamber; the Lords' Commissioners withdrew; and after the Bishop of Winchester had taken his seat, with the usual formalities, the sitting of their Lordships' House was suspended.

A RUSH FOR THE EVENING PAPERS IN PARIS.

POLITICAL events, and the excitement consequent on the arrest of M. Rochefort still maintain the intense interest of the Parisian public in the contents of the evening papers, and the broad sheets are eagerly sought for; those which contain peculiarly sensational articles, paragraphs, or illustrations frequently being sold out, and fetching three or four times their price when retailed by astute speculators, who have bought up a whole edition on "spec."

It is in the Rue du Croissant—which may be said to be the Fleet-street of Paris, though it is by no means so important a thoroughfare as our own literary highway—that the principal uproar is to be witnessed, and during the two hours from four to six o'clock in the evening the confusion is at its highest. Two or three hundred men, women, and children form the crowd that fills the roadway of that impassable quarter, and prevents vehicles from entering the street to which they direct their attention, rendering it, in fact, a mere courtyard of the publishing offices.

Every member of this crowd carries a package of newspapers, intended to furnish the cafés and the newsvendors' shops; and when the trucks and carts appear with their load of journals, or the waggons with printing-paper brought from the market of St. Joseph, close by, to the Vallée press, the confusion becomes more confounded, especially as it is the dinner hour of the printers and other workpeople, who, issuing from the various publishing offices, add a new element to the scene.

Five or six large newsvendors have their establishments there, and so centralise the sale of almost all the Parisian papers, and those small journals which are unnoticed by these capitalists have their own little offices or special wickets in some of the stalls where they issue their damp, inky-smelling sheets. There is never so much as a window or a passage to let in this locality every available space finds a tenant in this trade, and the wine-merchants who abound there are every day narrowing their shop-fronts, in order to sub-let some of the vacant panes, window by window, to the newsvendors. Every periodical publication issued in Paris may be obtained there; and it is computed that about 300,000 journals are sold there daily, beside a vast number of weekly periodicals and magazines.

The business done in the Rue Croissant employs about 500 to 600 persons connected with the various offices and agencies; and of course the amount of money represented is considerable. The direct sales to the public are carried on by 200 keepers of the kiosks on the boulevards; 200 stall-keepers, who have little tables in the open air; and about 300 librarians.

Our illustration represents the scene at the hour of issuing the evening journals in this interesting though old-fashioned street of the French capital.

BALL AT THE HOTEL DE VILLE, PARIS.

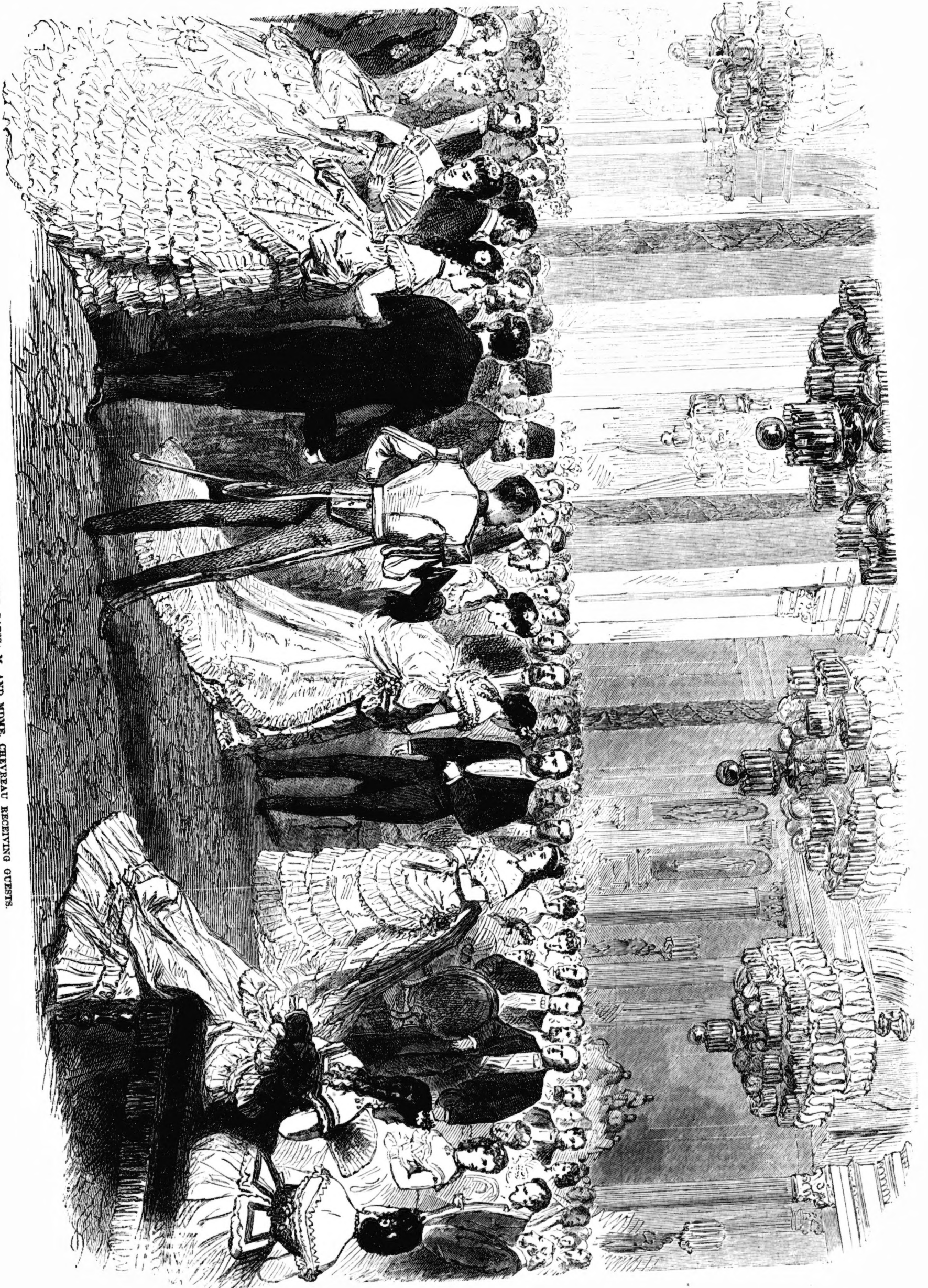
AMONG other differences between us and our neighbours across the Channel is this—that whereas Englishmen celebrate all important occasions by a dinner, the French make all similar occurrences the excuse for a ball. Dining is our specialty; dancing is theirs; and, though we sometimes have public dances and they occasionally public dinners, the dancing in the one case and the dining in the other are merely subsidiary affairs. In accordance with this difference in national habits, the Lord Mayor of London inaugurates his year of office by a grand banquet at the Mansion House; while the new Prefect of the Seine has just celebrated his accession to the throne of M. Haussmann in the national way—by a ball at the Hôtel de Ville. This event took place on the 27th ult., and was, as usual, splendid. Such a crowd; such rich and rare gowns and toilettes; but, as most people exclaimed, "On ne dansait pas, on s'étouffait." Art and literature were more widely represented than in the days of the magnificent Haussmann, who in this palace received during his reign nearly all the Sovereigns of the world.

FRENCH HEIRESSSES.—France is the country, *par excellence*, of heiresses. The other day Rigolot, the inventor of a new kind of mustard-poultice, gave his daughter a dower of 3,000,000 fl. Mlle. Pinaud, the perfumer's daughter, who was married last week, had a still larger portion, to say nothing of her great expectations. The approaching wedding of Mlle. Lebeuf, better known as Miss Margaret Bellanger, is announced in nearly all the papers. She is to espouse one of the partners in a house of the Howell and James calibre. The marriage is to take place under the dotal régime, so that the lady will remain mistress of her own fortune. A few of the items in the inventory are a hotel, style Louis Quinze, built in 1867, in the Avenue Friedland, worth 1,700,000 fl.; Gobelin's carpets, almost fresh from the looms, manufactured for the aforesaid hotel; many lots of building ground; lace, diamonds, gold and silver plate, shares in mines, railways, and gasworks, with autograph letters from illustrious personages which are said to be of historical and family interest. It is a pity that no "Golden Rose" perfumes this precious *Corbeille de Mariage*.

REFORM AT THE WAR OFFICE.—The attention of successive Secretaries of State for War has been called to the great inconvenience resulting from a practice among certain clerks in the War Office, who take upon themselves to reply, often with summary refusal, to applications emanating from officers who possess considerable regimental experience, and whose representations are, at least, entitled to respectful consideration. These proceedings have lately threatened to bring the department into additional disrepute, besides lending colour to the views of those who profess to regard with alarm any curtailment of the present semi-independent action of the Horse Guards. We are happy to hear, therefore, that the heads of the War Department are fully alive to the inconvenience resulting from such irregularities; and we believe that a scheme is now in contemplation which will ensure to the humblest applicant at the War Office careful consideration of his request, with a courteous reply. It is manifestly impossible that the Secretary of State, or the Under-Secretary, Lord Northbrook, can deal personally, in the first instance, with every letter sent in. But why not enact that the head of each department in the War Office should sign all replies to applications referred to his particular branch; and, further, that he should be held responsible for what he signs? If, in the exercise of official discretion, his reply should contain a refusal, the applicant should be distinctly informed of his right to appeal to the Under-Secretary, from whose decision also an appeal might lie to the Minister himself. Some such reform, carried out in a determined spirit, would do much to heal the soreness now existing among a portion of the combatant branch of the Army against the War Department, although, so far as the heads of that office are concerned, the feeling is wholly undeserved. —*Telegraph*.



PARISIAN SKETCHES: A RUSH FOR EVENING PAPERS IN THE RUE CROISSANT.



BALL AT THE HOTEL DE VILLE, PARIS: M. AND MME. CHEVREAU RECEIVING GUESTS.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 365.

ALTERATIONS AND DECORATIONS.

OUR readers must have learned from the newspapers that during the recess a considerable sum of money has been spent in altering and decorating some parts of the interior of Westminster Palace. We will begin our Sessional work by describing the changes which have been made, and commenting thereon. In St. Stephen's Hall, where the statues are, and where Cromwell's statue ought to be and is not, no architectural change has been made nor decoration introduced. The marble statues, by the assiduous application of soap and water, have been made to look whiter, and the window-cleaners have given to the colours in the windows a brighter glow. That is all. The stonework is still defiled and hidden by its dingy coat of paint, and the spaces reserved for historic pictures are still vacant; but when you step out of St. Stephen's Gallery into the central hall, the noblest hall in the palace, the acknowledged chef-d'œuvre of the architect, you perceive that a great change has been made. In the first place, you are conscious of increased light, and you soon discover whence it comes. The roof has been pierced, and over the aperture a glazed lantern has been placed. Then you notice that the heavy carved stonework which filled up the pointed arches over the glazed oaken doors leading out of the hall has been removed, leaving what looks like open spaces, but really these spaces are filled in with plate glass. But this is not all. The stonework here has been disrobed of its mud-coloured coat of paint, and the naked stone is fresh and bright, as if it had just come from the mason's hands; and, as stone-colour reflects the light better than dark, dingy paint, this change alone gives us much more light than we had before. Such are the means which have been taken to enlighten this noble hall. But it has also been "decorated." Over the doorway leading into the Lords' Corridor the great arch has been filled in with a pictorial representation. What, though, it represents, notwithstanding the increased light, you are unable to make out. You see dimly three figures. You will be informed, if you question the policeman, that it is a picture of "St. George;" and you must be content to believe in his testimony that it is so until the light from the gas-chandelier pendent from the roof shall turn your faith into sight. This picture is not done in fresco, like the pictures in other parts of the building. It has been discovered, alas! that frescoes will not stand in our climate, but gradually fade, and threaten ultimately to disappear. Mr. Herbert coated his grand picture of "Moses descending from Mount Sinai with the Law" with water-glass; Maclellan did the same with his pictures of the "Meeting of Wellington and Blücher" and "The Death of Nelson;" and both hoped that this would preserve them. But the success is doubtful. Certainly the Meeting of Wellington and Blücher has lost much of its original brilliancy. Mr. Layard, seeing this, determined to try mosaic work, and this is the first experiment; and there seems but little reason to doubt that this material will successfully defy Decay's effacing fingers. The cartoon of this picture is the work of Mr. Poynter, A.R.A. It has been reproduced in mosaic by Salviati, at Venice, and brought over here in numbered blocks, packed in boxes; and all that the workmen here had to do was to affix the blocks in their places, by means of cement, on the wall. Turning your eye from the picture to the ceiling, you perceive that that which last Session was plain stone is now a blaze of colour and gold. The converging ribs of the groined roof are gilded, and the panels between are filled with brilliant mosaics, the effect of all which, to say the least of it, is, as you look up from below, very gorgeous.

COMMENTS THEREON.

We will now make a few comments on these changes. Is the appearance of this noble hall improved by them or not? We are sorry to be obliged to say that the appearance is not improved; on the contrary, the hall is, to our minds, spoiled. We will first notice the lantern. We deem this to be a mistake. Before the change, the ribs of the groined roof all converged towards a massive central keystone, ornamented by a carved boss, from the middle of which hung the rod that sustains the handsome brass chandelier. Now the ribs converge to a ring, the base of the lantern; and the chandelier rod hangs from transverse bars. Thus, the massive completeness of this once imposing roof is destroyed. No doubt it is as strong as ever, but it does not look so; and this want of the appearance of strength is a fault. Neither is the colouring of the ceiling in good taste. It is a canon of correct taste that colouring, if used at all to decorate Gothic architecture, ought to be applied sparingly and with judgment. Here it is applied profusely, and with no judgment. The artist's aim in applying colour to such a roof as this should have been to bring out in bolder relief the architectural lines and forms; and if he had merely gilded the edges of the converging ribs, and picked out in gold and colour the bosses, capitals, and other prominent enrichments, he would have achieved his object. But by this profusion of colouring in the roof he has, as artists say, "killed" the beauty of its form. This hall, before the change, was noble, imposing, impressive. This was the prompt verdict of everyone who saw it; but nobody will say that of it now. The light which has been gained by taking out the heavy stonework over the doors is a great advantage; but the open spaces (for though they are glazed with plate-glass, they look as if they were open) are ugly. These spaces should have been filled in with open Gothic tracery, either of wood or stone; wood, perhaps, would be best. At present these doors have an unsightly, because unfinished, appearance.

CHANGES IN THE LOBBY.

Strangers accustomed to visit the House will not fail to notice a change at the door. Mr. Henry Seymour Pratt, the second doorkeeper, in consequence of ill health, has had to retire from his office. He was appointed about fourteen years ago. He is the son of Mr. T. Pratt, who for many years was first doorkeeper. Mr. Hartley, who has long been a messenger of the House, has been appointed by Lord Charles Russell, the Sergeant-at-Arms, to succeed Mr. Pratt. If the new rule issued by the Sergeant-at-Arms, by command of Mr. Speaker, can be enforced, the work of the doorkeepers and the police will be very much lightened; for it is ordered that all strangers, whether they come on business or for pleasure, are to wait in the Central Hall, and not in the lobby. When a stranger wants to see a member he must in future send his card by a policeman to the doorkeeper, who will send it into the House in the usual way. When the member comes out of the House, the stranger wanting him may be admitted into the lobby; but, having transacted his business, he must again retire. This is an improvement, no doubt. The lobby will be kept clear and cool; members will not be liable to be "button-holed" and "interviewed"—to use an American word; and the clerks and other officials will be able to get to their offices without having to push, as heretofore, through a crowd. Hitherto the arrangement has worked well; but the pressure of business has not yet come. How it will work in the height of the season, on important nights, remains to be seen. To mere loungers, lobby-lollers, touters, canvassers, *et id genus omne*, this change will be a heavy blow and great discouragement; but, on the whole, they are pestilent people, for whom one can feel no pity. That learned clerk, "bearded like the pard," for instance, who is said to know a dozen languages, and yet only by mere mendicancy can keep the wolf from the door, no one will regret his disappearance. Nor will anyone be sorry that our old friend Mottle must at length "absquatulate," for he had become very seedy of late, and, to speak the truth, of evil odour. Then there is a host of people who seem to come down to the House merely to drink either at the bar or in the refreshment-room. The conspicuous absence of these will be very grateful to the officials and the police, for, if they did not often get drunk and disorderly, they not unfrequently were "elevated," insubordinate, and insolent. On the whole, then, the rule must be considered good; for if, when a time of severe pressure comes, it may be found impossible to observe it to the letter, it will

certainly keep the lobby clear of many scores of idle and offensive persons.

APPEARANCE OF THE HOUSE.

We shall not here describe the opening of Parliament. We have described it already for fourteen years with more or less particularity; and we may now take it for granted that our readers have got by this time to know as much about the ceremony as if they had seen it. Suffice it, then, to say that it was, as it usually is when Majesty is not present, a dull humdrum affair. Nor need we say a great deal about the appearance of the House when the members assembled. Everything looked much the same as it did when Parliament was prorogued. There were the same people, in the same dresses; the only difference observable being that, instead of being pale and jaded, as they were in August last, members looked browner and ruddier, and were as lively as four-year-olds. And that they mean work is obvious from the fact—fact surely unprecedented—that, on this the first day of meeting, notices of bills and motions to the number of fifty, within one or two, were placed upon the paper. We will now devote a few lines to the mover and seconder of the Address.

THE MOVER OF THE ADDRESS.

The mover was the Hon. Captain Francis Egerton, R.N. He is the son of the first Earl of Ellesmere, and entered the House, for the first time, in December, 1868, as member for East Derbyshire. He has a brother in the House—to wit, the Hon. Algernon Fulke Egerton, Conservative member for South Lancashire. An Egerton Liberal in politics is a very rare bird; unique, we think; for after diligent search we can find no other. It was, then, but natural that the Prime Minister should wish to exhibit this curious specimen to the House. The gallant Captain appeared in the House apparelled in his naval uniform, with his sash across his shoulder. He delivered his short speech with gentlemanly ease, propriety, and coolness. About the matter of his speech we shall say nothing, because there is nothing to be said. It was little more than a catalogue of the topics of the Royal speech, with short comments, sensible and pertinent, but by no means striking. The hon. and gallant gentleman seems to have acted upon the principle that the middle course is safest. He sacrificed the luxury of cheers from his friends that he might not provoke the criticism of his opponents. In short, it was a commendably safe speech. If it did no good, it did no harm.

THE SECONDER.

Sir Charles Wentworth Dilke, Bart., the seconder of the Address, is the son of Sir Charles Wentworth Dilke, who for three years represented Wallingford; and contested it in 1868, but failed to get elected, the voters, strangely enough, preferring Mr. Stanley Vickers, notable for distilling "cream gin," as hundreds of gin-shop windows inform us; but for nothing else that we ever heard of. After his defeat Sir Charles went to Russia, and there suddenly died, and was succeeded by his eldest son, the seconder of the Address. This gentleman was born in September, 1843. He was therefore twenty-six years old last September. "A young man, then," my readers will say, "to get into such a position." Yes; but now please to observe what further he has done. In 1866 he graduated LL.B. at Trinity Hall, Cambridge. In the same year he was called to the Bar in the Middle Temple. In the same year he started on his travels. In the following year, having put a girdle round the earth, he got home. In 1868 he fought for the honour of representing the new borough of Chelsea, and was returned at the head of the poll. In 1869 he gave to the world his "Greater Britain," being an account of his travels in two handsome volumes—a capital work, full of information and sound reflections, which we have read through once, and mean to read again. And, further, he has enlarged and improved the *Athenæum*, of which he is now the sole proprietor. There, readers, what do you think of work like this? Sir Charles, holding no military commission—not even in that hybrid corps the Deputy Lieutenants—had to appear in Court dress, the new Court dress, which is more popular than the old, inasmuch as it admits of trousers instead of knee-breeches. There was more in Sir Charles's speech than in that of his predecessor; and he too, delivered what he had to say with ease and grace. But he will do better even than this, when he shall, as he doubtless will, take up a line of his own. To speak in the outward and visible Court dress, one would say, is not an easy task; but the mover and seconder of an Address are trammelled also with the invisible dress of etiquette and custom.

Imperial Parliament.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE ADDRESS.

The Marquis of HUNTLY moved the Address in reply to her Majesty's Speech.

The Earl of FINGALL seconded the Address.

Lord CAIRNS then commented on the Speech from the Throne, and, in his notice of the paragraph relating to Ireland, pointed out that, so far as it related to the state of the country, it was contradictory and ambiguous.

Earl Granville having replied, Lord Grey, the Duke of Marlborough, and Lord Monck followed. The Address was then agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. Gladstone gave notice, for Thursday, of a resolution declaring Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa incapable of being returned as member of Parliament for the county of Tipperary, and ordering a new writ for that recalcitrant constituency; and, for Tuesday next, of the promised land bill for Ireland; Mr. Cardwell, for Tuesday next, a bill to make further provision relating to the management of certain departments of the War Office; Mr. W. E. Forster a bill to provide for public elementary education in England and Wales; Mr. Hardcastle, for Monday next, a bill to repeal the minority clauses of the last Reform Act; Mr. Cross, for Tuesday, the 22nd inst., a bill to render void the next presentation to benefices; Mr. Bentinck, a motion on the case of the English ship *Tornado*; Mr. Torrens, a resolution on the expediency of emigration as a means of relieving the distressed condition of the working classes and staying the increase of pauperism; Sir R. Bateson, several questions to Ministers on the subject of the removal of Mr. Madden from the commission of the peace in Ireland, and the official and magisterial appointments recently made by the Irish Executive; Mr. Hibbert, a bill to relieve civil disabilities attaching to the clergy of the Established Churches of England and Scotland, and to allow them to be elected to Parliamentary and municipal offices; Mr. Watkin Williams, for Tuesday, March 18, resolutions for the disestablishment and disendowment of the Protestant Church in Wales; and by Mr. Taylor, a bill to abolish the game laws, &c.

THE ADDRESS.

The Address in reply to the Queen's Speech, of which it was a simple echo, was moved by Captain Egerton and seconded by Sir C. Dilke.

Mr. DISRAELI then said he should not have addressed the House but for some paragraphs in the Speech which referred to the condition of Ireland; and stated that, although that condition was not satisfactory, but absolutely bad, on previous occasions it was worse, and that Government had employed freely the means at their command for the prevention of outrage and disorder. This he was glad to learn upon such high authority, for the popular and general impression was rather the reverse. But the language used was involved and ambiguous. Contingent upon Ministers succeeding in passing certain measures, it intimated that they would resume the duty of government and protect life and property in Ireland; and he deeply regretted to find that it was their opinion, as a responsible body of men, that the protection of life and property of her Majesty's subjects was a contingent duty. The two subjects of agitation in Ireland were the discharge of political prisoners and a transfer of the land from one class to another. With regard to the former, the Government had, in reply to the demands made upon them, decided to adopt a partial amnesty. Hence had arisen much of the rampant agitation which had recently disturbed the country. As to the transfer of land, they had now given notice of their intention to bring forward a measure on the subject; and he was sure it would have the impartial consideration of both sides of the House, and so far as he was concerned should receive a cordial support. In conclusion, the right hon. gentleman, addressing an admonition to hon. members, entreated them to consider the Irish question in a firm and just spirit, and warned them that if they erred in sanctioning a policy that, unchecked, must lead to the dismemberment

of the empire, and even the partial dissolution of society, the time might come when they would have to look back to the day that they entered this Parliament with very different feelings from those which now influenced them; they would remember this Parliament with dismay and with remorse.

Mr. GLADSTONE replied to the criticisms of the leader of the Opposition, which he described as constituting the sort of exhibition that might have been expected as due to his supporters after the recess. He denied that the amnesty was partial. On the contrary, it was discriminating, and was based upon a careful consideration of each individual case. He also denied that the Irish Church had been despoiled, or that it was the intention of the Government to recommend to Parliament any measure that could be any ingenuity of language be described as calculated to confiscate the property of the landlords. The Government was not to be held responsible for the opinions of its independent supporters. Mr. Heron was not the law adviser of the Crown when he contested the county of Tipperary, nor had he been for some years before that memorable event. The object of the Fenians appeared to be to defeat the efforts of Parliament to strike at the root of disaffection in Ireland. But that circumstance ought not to deter the House from dealing with the difficult task before it; and he appealed to the Opposition to give the scheme of the Government a fair and candid consideration.

After some further discussion, the Address was agreed to.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House sat for only a short time, and did not transact much important business. A new writ was ordered for Southwark, and another for the city of Londonderry. The vacancy in the case of the latter constituency arises from the fact of Mr. Serjeant Dowse having been appointed Solicitor-General for Ireland. When the report of the Address was brought up, Mr. HADFIELD called attention to the provision of our law which prevents aliens from holding land; and was assured by Mr. BAUCH that the subject will be dealt with in the measure for the alteration of the laws of naturalisation which will be introduced into the House of Lords in a few days. Mr. CORRIANCE complained that in the Royal Speech, no prospect was held out of the introduction of any measure for dealing with the important subject of pauperism and poor relief; and then the report was agreed to. Leave was given to introduce several bills.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

STREET-TRAMWAYS.

Lord REDESDALE called the attention of the House and of the Government to the various bills lodged in this House for introduction in the present Session for the construction of street-tramways. He said there was now a new system about to be introduced in dealing with such measures, which differed from that which had been advantageously applied to railways. This Session there were twenty-four schemes for tramways before the House, seven of which had reference to the metropolis, the latter applying to a length of 145 miles. The schemes affected so many towns besides the metropolis that there ought to be an official inquiry into them, and some rules and regulations ought to be laid down by the public authorities. He hoped that the Government would take the matter into their serious consideration, though he did not now require an answer.

The Earl of KIMBERLEY said he would communicate with the Board of Trade, and take care that the observations which Lord Redesdale had made were considered. He wished, however, to point out that, whatever consideration might be given to the subject, tramways would always be matters of local concern, and not of general national concern, as railway companies were.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE ELECTION OF O'DONOVAN ROSSA.

Mr. GLADSTONE, having first moved that the record of the conviction of Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa for treason-felony be ordered to be entered as read, proceeded to refer to the notice of the amendment which the hon. member for Mayo had given in reference to the motion which he (the right hon. gentleman) was about to make. That motion was as follows:—"That Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa, returned as knight of the shire for the county of Tipperary, having been adjudged guilty of felony and sentenced to penal servitude for life, and being now imprisoned under such sentence, is incapable of being elected as a member of this House; that the Speaker do issue his warrant for a new writ for the election of a knight of the shire for the county of Tipperary." The facts of the case, he contended, were as clear as possible, and the principle upon which they should be dealt with was no less clear. That being the case, any proposal for inquiry instead of action would not be becoming the dignity of that House. The writ, when issued, was for the election of a fit and proper person to serve as a knight of the shire; and if a child were to be elected that election would be disregarded, as no answer to the writ, and the House would therefore have no alternative but to call upon the electors to discharge their duty by the issue of a new writ. The only precedent of late years for the course now proposed to be taken was in the case of Smith O'Brien, the particulars of which the right hon. gentleman detailed. The negative to the motion which he had made would be an affirmative that a person adjudged guilty of treason-felony and suffering imprisonment for the offence was not a fitting and proper person to represent a constituency in the House. It was with this opinion that he desired to make the motion.

Mr. H. MOORE, in proposing that the matter be referred to a Committee, observed that he did so without any party feeling whatever. He certainly had no expectation of inducing the House to abandon what he could see was its foregone conclusion—to set aside the election of the hon. member for Tipperary. He contended that he was the member for Tipperary until his election should be set aside, and it certainly could not be said that he had been elected by any corrupt or dishonourable influences. The hon. member then proceeded to contend that, no attainder having been passed in the case of O'Donovan Rossa, the House had no power to pronounce his disqualification; and, further, that by the Reform Act of 1868 the power of deciding upon the eligibility of a member was transferred to the Judges of the land.

Mr. MATTHEW seconded the amendment.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL and Mr. G. HARDY severally argued in favour of the course proposed by the Government.

After some further discussion, in which Sir R. Palmer, Mr. Bonville, Mr. G. Gregory, Mr. McMahon, Mr. W. Johnston, Mr. Maguire, and other hon. members took part, the House went to a division, when Mr. Gladstone's resolution was carried by 301 to 8.

Subsequently a new writ was ordered to issue for the election of a member for Tipperary, in the room of O'Donovan Rossa.

NEW BILLS.

Leave was given to Mr. Secretary Bruce to introduce his bill of last Session relating to the regulation and inspection of mines.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer obtained leave to bring in a bill abolishing the salary of the Master of the Mint, amalgamating the office with that of Chancellor of the Exchequer, and consolidating and amending the law relating to the rules and regulations of the Mint; also a bill discontinuing the office of Registrar of Friendly Societies, and substituting for certificates a registry of friendly societies, open to public inspection.

Leave was also given to bring in the following bills:—Mr. Lock, a bill to amend the game laws of Scotland; Mr. O. Morgan, a bill to amend the burial laws; Mr. C. Forster, a bill to abolish the forfeiture of lands and goods on conviction of felony; Mr. O. Morgan, a bill to facilitate the purchase and taking of sites for places of worship and schools; Mr. T. Chambers, a bill to legalise marriage with a deceased wife's sister.

All these bills were read the first time.

JACOB SPINAS, charged with the wilful murder of a woman in Finsbury-square, under circumstances of unusual brutality, was taken before Mr. Newton, at Worship-street, on Wednesday. After further corroborative evidence had been given, the prisoner, who said he was innocent, was committed for trial at the next session of the Central Criminal Court.

THE ENTHRONEMENT OF DR. MACKARNESSE is fixed to take place, in Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, on Tuesday, the 15th inst. The University and city authorities will take part in the ceremony. It is expected that the Bishop will preach on the occasion. His Lordship will make his first public appearance at Oxford the previous day, when he will preside at a meeting of the Church Missionary Society, to be held in the Townhall.

THE HAMPTSTEAD VESTRY have resolved to apply to the Metropolitan Board of Works to have a fire-escape kept at the fire-brigade station in Heath-street, Hampstead. The mover of the resolution remarked that the situation of Hampstead was similar to that of Richmond. It was on the top of a hill, there were a number of houses built of timber, and there was no fire-escape nearer than St. John's-wood. It was also stated that there was not even a ladder at the fire-escape station, and the vestry authorised their surveyor to procure three immediately.

CONVOCAATION.—Convocation met on Wednesday—the Bishop of London presiding in the Upper House, under a commission from the Archbishop of Canterbury. The appointment of Dr. Temple to the See of Exeter was referred to by the Bishop of Lincoln, who moved the nomination of a joint committee of both houses to inquire into the whole question of the appointment of Bishops. This was seconded by the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, and, after a long discussion, carried. Dr. Temple, at the close of the debate, thanked his right rev. brethren for the kind expressions which they had used towards him, and expressed a hope that his work would show how deeply he appreciated the feeling by which the Bishops had been actuated. In the Lower House, Archbishop Denison's resolutions protesting against the promotion of Dr. Temple were not discussed. In future editions of "Essays and Reviews" the Bishop of Exeter's contribution will be omitted.

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UNCLE TOBY AND THE WIDOW WADMAN,
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"I am half-distracted, Captain Shandy," said Mrs. Wadman, holding up her cambric handkerchief to her left eye, as she approached the door of my Uncle Toby's study-box; "a mote, or sand, or something, I know not what, has got into this eye of mine;—do look into it;—it is not in the white." "Honest soul! thou didst look into it with as much innocency of heart as ever child looked into a raree-show-box; and 'twere as much a sin to have hurt thee. I see him yonder, with his pipe pendulous in his hand, and the ashes falling out of it,—looking,—and looking,—then rubbing his eyes,—and looking again, with twice the good nature that ever Galileo looked for a spot in the sun. In vain! for, by all the powers that animate the organ,—Widow Wadman's left eye shines this moment as bright as her right;—there is neither mote nor sand, nor dust, nor chaff, nor speck, nor particle of opaque matter, floating in it. There is nothing, my dear paternal uncle! but one lambent delicious fire, furtively shooting out from every part of it, in all directions, into thine. If thou lookest, Uncle Toby, in search of this mote one moment longer, thou art undone." *Tristram Shandy.*

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1870.

FORTHCOMING LEGISLATION.

"Dr. D. Dalrymple gave notice that, on Friday, March 4, he would move a resolution relative to the detention and proper punishment of habitual drunkards." This is rather vague. Of course, it may only mean that Dr. D. Dalrymple intends to "move a resolution" to the effect that "habitual drunkenness" is a thing legally indefinable; that though a man may be rightfully punished for any wrong thing he does when drunk, he cannot justly be punished for the drunkenness itself. Or it may be that the words "proper punishment" are an error, and that Dr. Dalrymple only intends to propose some kind of legislation by which "habitual drunkards" may, of their own free will, place themselves under control, just as a lunatic in a lucid interval might do. But, in the mean time, we request the attention of our readers to the repeated warnings we have given of the tendencies of the "meddle and muddle" spirit at the present hour, and to the following list of a few bills which are likely to be proposed for the adoption of Parliament within a short time:—

"A bill for the detention and proper punishment of habitual gluttons." Of course it will be affirmed that gluttony does not injure the State. But several physiological experts will prove that over-feeding leads to indigestion; indigestion to ill-temper; ill-temper to murder, and to various doubtful or morally culpable actions which tend to the relaxation of social ties. This bill will be strenuously opposed by teetotalers, who are, as a rule, immoderate eaters.

"A bill for the detention and proper punishment of habitual tea and coffee drinkers." Scientific experts in large numbers will support this bill by proving that *theine*, in all its forms, relaxes the motor nerves and unfits the unhappy consumer for the service of the State.

"A bill for the detention and proper punishment of habitual smokers." This, also, will be supported by scientific experts, who will give evidence that the use of tobacco tends to check the increase of population. The Malthusian party are, of course, expected to oppose this measure on the ground that the use of tobacco is highly beneficial because it checks the growth of population.

"A bill for the detention and proper punishment of habitual readers of novels, poetry, and works of imagination in general." It is contended that this class of persons is highly mischievous to the State, and an immense mass of scientific opinion will be forthcoming in support of the measure, should it be referred to a Select Committee.

"A bill for the detention and proper punishment of habitual Scripture-readers, prayer-meeting-goers, City missionaries, and other persons" who devote themselves to matters which, as the French say, "want actuality." This measure will have a larger "following" than our readers might suppose. The number of persons in the House of Commons—some of them high up in the list, too—who look upon every thought and word bestowed upon a Supreme Being and a future life as so much waste, is considerable.

The next and last bill in our catalogue will, we fear, cause a split; in fact, a good many splits. It is well known that among some of the ancients, infants that did not look "spry" at the time of birth were exposed, or strangled, or drowned, like blind puppies. This was justified in the interest of the State, which wanted strong citizens, not weaklings. Now, it has lately been contended that, owing to the progress of medical science and hygiene, and the activity in our own day of the humane and watchful sentiments, society is actually preserving such a number

of weakly lives that "the interests of the State" are jeopardised. Experts have maintained this doctrine in two of our leading reviews. Consequently, nobody will be surprised to hear of "A bill for the suppression of delicate babies, and the proper punishment of habitual producers of children who are below the State standard of vigour." Under the provisions of this bill, Government officers, armed with spirometers, dynamometers, and other necessary instruments, are to be present at every accouchement, for the purpose of testing the strength of all new-born children. Babies that do not come up to the mark are to be suppressed. Any father that fails to give one clear calendar month's notice to the Infant-Inspector of his district of the exact hour at which his child is to be born, with a statement as to its probable sex (to the best of his knowledge and belief—the inspectors, however, having power to administer an oath), is to be imprisoned without the option of a fine.

Now, it is possible that this last bill may excite a little discussion, because it is notorious that such poor cads as Sir Isaac Newton and Goethe, as well as Victor Hugo and some other living men whom one flinches from naming, were not expected to live when born, or for months after their birth. But it will be contended that these questions are beyond the cognisance of "the State." And, what is more, we defy those who maintain the right of "the State" to punish for drunkenness, to answer this contention. In fact, the whole of the recently-revived theory of the rights of "the State" involves far worse things than the Right of Infanticide by Due Course of Law: as some people will too late discover.

MISS WHARBURTON, a governess, in the service of Mr. F. C. Burnand, was travelling on the Midland Railway, between Kentish Town and Hendon, on June 28 last, when she fell out of the carriage, and was seriously injured that she was an inmate of a hospital for seven weeks, and had not been well since. She has sued the Midland Company for damages, her case being that the carriage-door was not closed at the Kentish Town station, and that on leaning her arm upon the window the door flew open. The company contended that the door was closed by the station-master in the usual way. A verdict for £500 damages was returned.

CLERICAL DISABILITIES.—Mr. Gladstone has addressed the following letter to Mr. T. C. Thordor Rogers, in reply to the address on clerical disabilities recently presented to him:—"11, Carlton House-terrace, Feb. 2. Dear Mr. Rogers,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of the memorial which you have transmitted to me on the subject of the disabilities attaching to the clerical profession. For my part, I am decidedly of opinion that the existing law cannot be defended, and the Government would, I think, be inclined to favour any well-digested measure for relief from the grievance of which complaint is made. I wish that we were in a condition to undertake the duty, but in the present state of the demands upon us, and in view of the labours of the coming Session, I am sorry to say that I could not with any propriety enter into any engagement with reference to this matter."

THE BRIGHT TRAINS.—The Right Hon. John Bright some weeks ago left Rochdale railway station by the 3.30 train through Oldham to Stockport, with the intention of arriving at Birmingham that evening, where he had an engagement. When the right hon. gentleman reached Stockport station he had the disappointment of witnessing the last train for Birmingham that evening depart before he was able to take a seat. His only course was either to spend the night in Stockport or return home to Rochdale. He chose the latter alternative, and returned to Mumps station, Oldham, where the train he was in was shunted on to a siding, to wait for the arrival of the train from Manchester, via Miles Platting, to Oldham. The night being foggy, the train was delayed a considerable time, and after the Right Hon. John Bright had patiently sat in the carriage three quarters of an hour he put his head out of the window and inquired how long they were to be kept waiting. A porter, whose ear it happened to catch, not knowing who spoke, replied, in the Lancashire dialect, "Sit thee still, mon; it'll be off directly." A short time after the porter was horrified on discovering that he had been answering the President of the Board of Trade in such unceremonious and uncouth language. The circumstances becoming known to the directors of the London and North-Western Company and the Lancashire and Yorkshire Company, they decided to run trains direct to prevent a recurrence. Now a large number of additional trains are running; and are a great boon to the public, by whom they are denominated "the Bright trains."

THE POLITICAL EVICTIONS IN WALES.—A large meeting was held on Monday night, at the Hanover-square Rooms, sympathising with the Welsh electors who had been evicted, and promising to aid them. Mr. Morley, M.P., presided, and commented on Conservative landlords evicting tenants who had voted for Liberal candidates. Some notices had since been withdrawn, but others were carried into effect. E. M. Richards, M.P., whilst admiring the courage of the electors, considered them entitled to help, and especially those poor tenants of Cardigan who had acted so conscientiously. Colonel Cowell Stegney, M.P., and Mr. Serjeant Pary protested against wrongs inflicted on tenants, and argued that the ballot was their only remedy. A Welshman suggested that landlords should be criminally prosecuted; and Mr. Morley was loudly applauded when he said the committee would consider that matter. Mr. H. Richards, M.P., gave a sketch of the social and political condition of Wales. Notwithstanding pressure, the Liberals returned twenty-four out of thirty-three representatives in the Principality. He asked sympathy also for those tenants who had been driven to the poll and had voted for Conservatives by extreme pressure. None but Liberal tenants had been evicted, and that was conclusive proof of Conservative influence. Their support would give heart and courage to Liberals and Nonconformists in Wales, and make them stand up against oppressive landlords. Mr. E. J. Searis, M.P., stated that Liberals and Nonconformists were in a majority in Wales; but until the last day they had not dared to exercise the franchise, such was the Conservative landlord influence. His argument was supported by Mr. Watkin Williams, M.P. A resolution urging upon Government the necessity of adopting the ballot (for which all the speakers contended) was moved by Mr. Osborne Morgan, M.P., who announced that within twenty hours Government would declare the ballot as one of the measures of the Session. Mr. Morgan Lloyd had been converted to the ballot since the last election, and was convinced that nothing else would stop evictions. The resolutions were unanimously carried. Subscriptions were announced, and letters read from various Welsh members of Parliament excusing their absence.

ANTIQUITIES FROM ASIA MINOR.—The antiquities which arrived in Malta from Smyrna some months ago, on board her Majesty's ship *Antelope*, are now on their way to England. They are intended for the British Museum, and fill upwards of 200 cases. The greater portion of these antiquities is the result of six months' excavations among the ruins of the Temple of Minerva Polias at Priene, in Asia Minor, by Mr. R. Popplewell Pullan, who, as architect of Mr. Newton's expedition to Halicarnassus, rendered essential services to archaeology, and has since distinguished himself by his explorations of the Temple of Bacchus at Teos, and of Apollo Smintheus at the Troad, under the auspices of the Dilettanti Society. It may here be mentioned that the Temple of Minerva, which was erected by Alexander the Great, is of great beauty, and the ruin as now laid bare is the most complete of any of the Ionic order, belonging to a good period of art, now extant in Asia Minor. The cases on their way to England contain fragments of the sculptural and architectural adornments of the temple, including portions of the celebrated statue of Minerva, mentioned by Pausanias, a colossal female head of a fine period, parts of several draped statues, heads of the Macedonian time, and fragments of the frieze, which in style closely resembles the reliefs on the Mausoleum, and is believed, in fact, to be by the same hand. There are also a few inscriptions of much interest. Besides the marbles discovered by Mr. Pullan, there are thirty-three cases, the fruits of the labours of Mr. Wood at Ephesus. This gentleman, as is well known, has been employed for some years past by the British Museum in seeking for the world-renowned Temple of Diana. Two cases sent from Asia Minor by Mr. Consul Dennis, whose researches among the tombs of the Lydian Kings at Sardis were abruptly brought to a close by the want of funds, are also among the consignment of ancient marbles shipped by the *Simoom*. It is gratifying to know that, though the excavations by Mr. Pullan were conducted at the expense of the Dilettanti Society, the British Museum will be enriched by their fruits. Mr. Newton, of Mausoleum celebrity, visited Priene at the close of Mr. Pullan's labours, and supported him in the most effectual manner. Altogether, it may truthfully be said that this is the most valuable collection of ancient marble that has been sent to England since the time of the Budrum Expedition.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN will shortly hold a court, two drawingrooms, and a levee at Buckingham Palace.

THE EMPEROR ALEXANDER has just conferred on Madame Patti the Order of Merit, and appointed her first singer at the Court. The decoration is set with diamonds and surmounted with the Imperial crown.

THE POPE, giving a practical instance of his infallibility, has just decreed that horse-racing, which hitherto was heretical in Rome, shall now be an orthodox pastime.

THE KING AND QUEEN OF THE HELLENES are to pay a visit in the spring to Denmark and Russia. Prince John of Glücksburg, uncle of George I., had been requested to again undertake the Regency during their absence; but, in consequence of his refusal, the Government will be confined to the Ministry.

HER MAJESTY has granted permission to Miss Paulina Granville to accept and wear the decoration bestowed on her by the King of Prussia in March last, for her assiduous attendance on the wounded soldiers after the battle of Kissingen.

BISHOPSTOWE, THE LATE BISHOP OF EXETER'S RESIDENCE, near Torquay, was, on Monday, put up at auction, and bought in at the reserved price of £10,000. There was a large attendance of persons.

MR. WHALLEY, M.P., in a letter to the Rev. C. P. McCarthy, Cheltenham, says he is now convinced that "there is no more important or urgent question than the abolition of the Church of England"—meaning, of course, as a State Church.

MESSRS. JAMES BEALE AND J. T. CARR state that the liabilities incurred on account of the petition against the return of Mr. W. H. Smith for Westminster have now been discharged. They amounted to £3063 15s. 2d.

AT HUNSTANTON the cliffs have been partially washed away, and sea-walls will be necessary to protect the newly-established watering place.

A MEDICAL GENTLEMAN had, during the past week, thirteen persons under his care, in the district of Liskeard, Cornwall, whose ages averaged eighty-six years. The youngest, aged eighty-three, died.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOP OF PITTSBURG, U.S., has threatened to excommunicate all parents who allow their children to attend the public schools.

MR. AUSTIN, an American millionaire, and the representative of an eminent American shipbuilding firm, has agreed, it is said, to purchase Deptford Dockyard for £140,000.

DR. DOLLINGER has received from thirteen University professors at Prague, all of whom are Catholics, and five of whom are ecclesiastics, an address congratulating him upon the courageous stand he has made against the dogma of Papal infallibility.

THE LATE MR. JOHN GEORGE PERRY, of Westbourne-street, has, by a codicil to his will, bequeathed to his friend, John William Colenso, Bishop of Natal, the sum of £2000, free of legacy duty, in token of admiration of his manly and resolute resistance of bigotry and intolerance.

THE MARQUIS OF BUTE, one of the vice-presidents of the Grampian Club, has intimated to the Rev. Dr. Rogers, the secretary, his intention of printing for the club the Chartulary of Cambuskenneth Abbey. This is one of the most interesting documents connected with the ancient religious houses in Scotland.

THE CHALLENGE FROM CAMBRIDGE TO OXFORD to row the annual boat-race was received at the latter University on Monday, and has, of course, been accepted.

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR JOHN WILLIAM GORDON died, on Tuesday, from the effects of a self-inflicted wound, whilst sojourning in the north of Devon a few days ago. The name of the deceased will be remembered in connection with distinguished services rendered during the Crimean War.

THE NEW BRITISH SCHOOLS ERRECTED AT MIDDLESBOROUGH, at the sole cost of Mr. Joseph Pease, of Darlington, were formally presented to trustees, on behalf of the town, by Mrs. J. W. Pease, on Saturday last. The new buildings, which have cost £4500, will accommodate 700 scholars.

THE DEATH IS ANNOUNCED OF MRS. EMERY, the widow of the celebrated actor, John Emery, whom she survived forty-eight years, and mother of Mr. Samuel Emery, of the Olympic Theatre. Mrs. Emery was in her eighty-ninth year.

THE TELEGRAPHS WERE TRANSFERRED TO THE GOVERNMENT last Saturday morning. The first message dispatched from the General Post Office was addressed to Mr. Harrison, of the Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce, one of the most strenuous advocates of the new system.

A STRIKE has taken place among the printers of Vienna and of Pesth. Attempts at a compromise having failed, the publishers of the Vienna press have arranged to have all the journals printed in one establishment under their own control.

BROADHEAD, of trades-union notoriety, has returned to Sheffield from America.

THE COUNCIL OF THE SOCIETY OF ARTS of London have appointed a committee to take steps for urging upon the Cabinet the great importance to all classes of reducing the postage on printed matter to one halfpenny instead of a penny, as at present, for every four ounces weight.

THE ANNUAL VOLUNTEER REVIEW will take place this year on Easter Monday. The selection of the place has yet to be made.

WORKMEN have commenced the demolition of several houses in Fleet-street, the ground on which they are built being required for the new law courts.

THE FULL COURT OF DIVORCE, on Wednesday, unanimously dismissed the appeal of the Rev. James Kelly against the decision of Lord Penzance, which decreed a judicial separation on the wife's petition on the ground of cruelty. Mr. Kelly wished to know whether he could carry the case to a higher court, and was informed that no further appeal was possible.

A VIOLENT STORM raged on the north coast of Scotland on Tuesday, and a large portion of the masonry composing the breakwater at Wick was swept away.

A WOMAN NAMED HOLLOWAY died in Liverpool on Sunday night, in consequence of the injuries which she had received by jumping from the gallery into the body of St. Joseph's Chapel during the late panic. This is the seventeenth death resulting from the calamity.

THE GOVERNMENT have resolved on the completest possible investigation of the case of the Welsh fasting girl. The Treasury has, we believe, already given instructions for the prosecution of the father of the girl, and also of the self-constituted committee who combined to keep her without food. Mr. Giffard, Q.C., will be the counsel for the Crown.

A DEPUTATION OF VOLUNTEER COMMANDING OFFICERS had an interview with Mr. Cardwell last Saturday, and stated their objections to the proposed new regulations. Mr. Cardwell promised that the utmost attention should be given to the statements of the deputation, and stated that some of the points objected to would not be passed.

JOHN AUCHINCLOSS, a gentleman farmer, was, on Monday, found brutally murdered in one of the stables at his residence, Derrigillena, near Enniskillen. Alexander, one of his sons, fled, but was arrested by the police. The Coroner and Captain Butler proceeded to the scene of the outrage to investigate the matter.

A TERRIBLE FIRE occurred, on Tuesday morning, at Bridgwater, by which the houses of two tradesmen, a painter and a draper, were burnt to the ground. The inmates had a narrow escape, their retreat by the stairs being cut off. They were, however, rescued by means of ladders. The value of the property destroyed is said to be £10,000.

THE SALMON-FISHING SEASON did not open satisfactorily in the Eden last week. The river was not in a favourable state either for netting or angling, the rain and thaw having combined to make a flood. The spawning season was not so good as it was the year before; but it is believed that more fish ascended the river. The price of salmon in Carlisle market on the opening day was 3s. 6d. per lb. On Saturday night it was 3s.

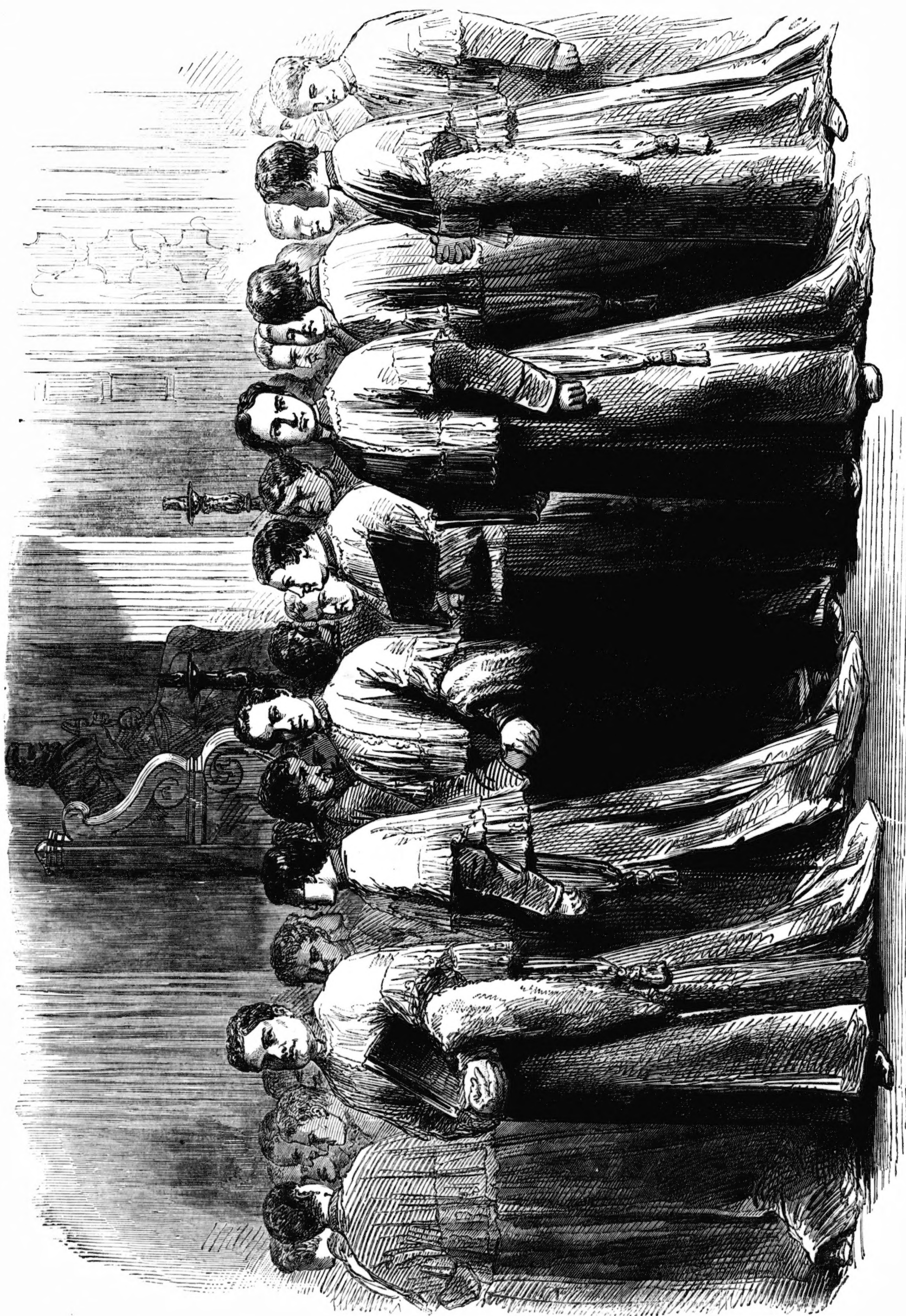
MR. THOMAS HYDE, hotel-keeper, and Mr. Stretch, a farmer in the neighbourhood of Leek, Staffordshire, disappeared together on Tuesday week. Late in the afternoon they were seen sliding on Rudyard Lake, a large sheet of water about two miles from Leek, and no doubt is entertained that they have been drowned.

SIR C. W. DILKE, M.P., headed a deputation from the National Education League to the Lord Mayor, on Wednesday, to ask his Lordship to preside over a public meeting at the Egyptian Hall. It was incidentally stated by the hon. member for Chelsea that the subscriptions to the League now amounted to £54,000, and that it numbered 10,000 members. The Lord Mayor complied with the request of the deputation.

THE REV. THOMAS DALE, Canon of St. Paul's Cathedral, and Rector of Thetford, in Hertfordshire, will be the new Dean of Rochester; and he will be succeeded in the Canonry by the Rev. Henry Parry Liddon, Prebendary of Sarum and Chaplain to the Bishop of Salisbury. Mr. Dale is an eminent preacher of the Evangelical school. Mr. Liddon, also most eloquent in the pulpit, is an accomplished scholar, and distinguished among the ablest intellects of the Church.

THE MAGISTRATES OF THE TOWN OF TIPPERARY have sent to gaol, for two months, two persons named Brien, mother and son, for having entered the house of a Mrs. Maroney, a shopkeeper in the town, and assaulted her (the female prisoner had an apronful of stones), because she refused a demand for a subscription of £2 towards a bountie, to rejoice over the death of an informer who "gave evidence at the time of the Fenian rising."

LORD WHARNCLEIFFE AND EARL STANHOPE had an interview with a deputation from the Miners' Union, on Saturday last, when the points in dispute at the Thorncliffe collieries were discussed, and certain bases were laid down for negotiation with the proprietors. After their interview with the men their Lordships saw the Messrs. Newton, who seemed disposed to think that terms might ultimately be agreed upon.



PONTIFICAL CHORISTERS OF THE SISTINE CHAPEL, ST. PETER'S, ROME.

THE NEW HALL OF THE INNER TEMPLE, LONDON.

THE Benchers and members of the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple have just had completed for them a magnificent new hall, of the exterior and interior of which we this week publish Engravings. The new edifice, of which Mr. Sidney Smirke is the architect, occupies the site of the ancient hall of the Knights Templars, but has been greatly extended in all its dimensions. The new hall is 94 ft. by 41 ft., and its height to the wall plate is 40 ft. The previous hall was 70 ft. by 29 ft., and the height to the wall plate 28 ft.

Owing to the slope of the ground, and to the depth of the foundations, there are both a basement and a sub-basement story under the hall. Under the western end is a vaulted crypt, hitherto used as a wine-cellar, but which it is intended to carefully restore to its original form. In rebuilding their hall, the Benchers have availed themselves of the opportunity to greatly extend and improve the domestic offices, and to provide commodious robing-rooms, lavatories, &c., for the use of members and of students, and to obtain better clerks' offices. New offices have also been built for the treasurer, and the parliament chamber has been increased in size. The buildings have been erected, under the superintendence of Mr. S. Smirke, by Messrs. Trollope, who have executed their work rapidly and substan-

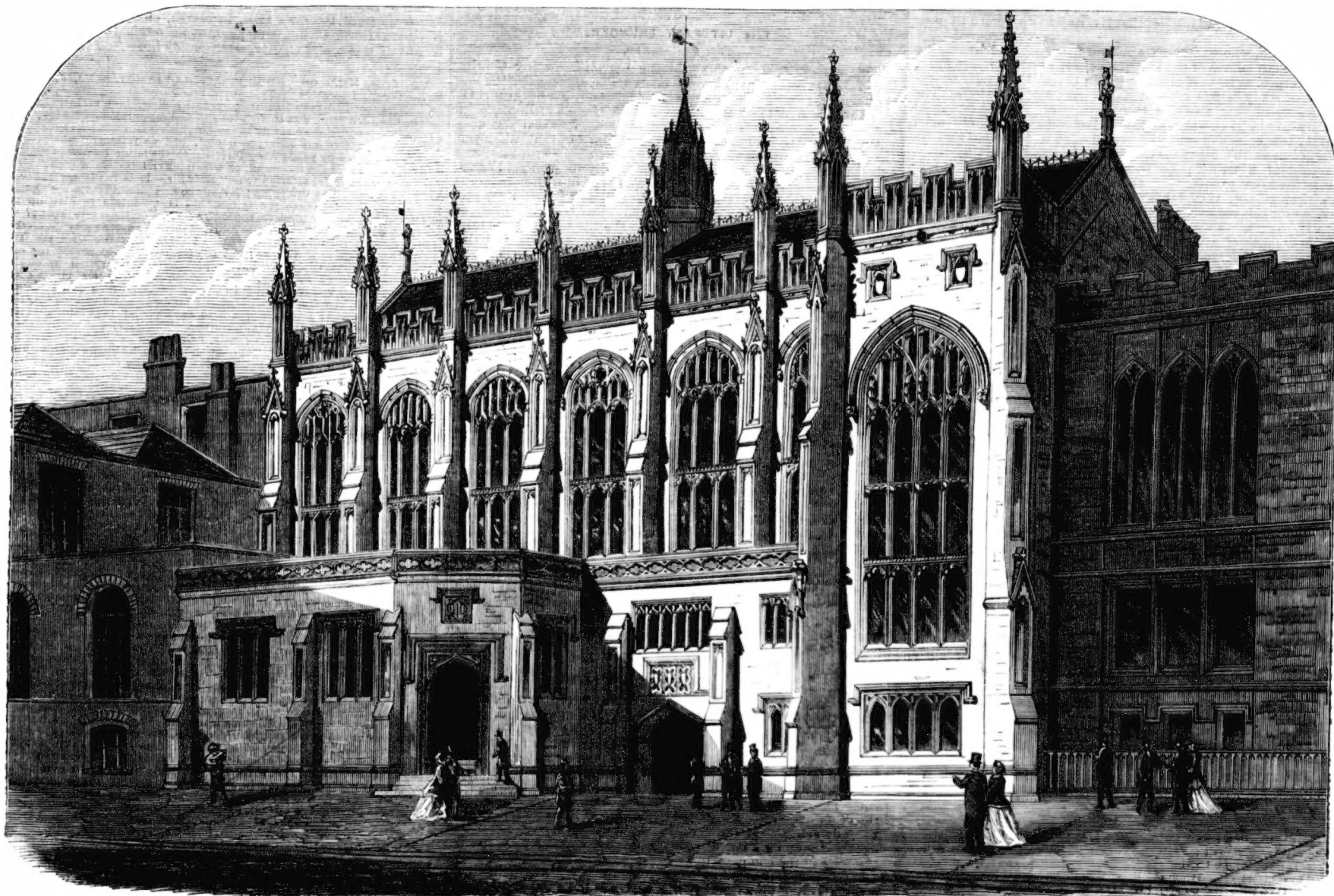


INTERIOR OF THE NEW INNER TEMPLE HALL.

tially. Two of the carved doors (oak) from the old hall have been rehung on the new building; one bears its own date (1575); the other seems of about the same age.

The exterior masonry is Portland stone, a material which, when rightly selected, has proved itself to be best suited for a London atmosphere. The interior of the hall is built of the hardest quality of Bath stone. The roof, screen, and wall linings, are all executed in wainscot. The hall is warmed by Messrs. Haden's apparatus, and lighted by Strode's sun-burners in the roof, and by sixteen bracket-lights, of burnished brass, against the walls, each having a large cluster of jets: these have been executed by Messrs. Hardman and Co., of Birmingham. The oriel window at the upper end of the hall is brilliantly glazed with stained glass, in armorial devices. The rest of the windows are at present glazed ornamentally in leaded-lights and plain glass, but it is understood to be the intention of the Benchers ultimately to glaze the whole of the windows with richly-coloured devices illustrative of the history of the Temple.

In digging the foundations remains were met with of a still earlier hall of smaller dimensions, but of extremely solid masonry, of Norman character. In removing portions of the oldest foundation walls, several carved capitals and other architectural details were found built into the interior of the walls.



EXTERIOR OF THE NEW INNER TEMPLE HALL.

The execution of these was so perfectly sharp and clean, as to make it probable that they had never been exposed to the weather, nor even set in their places, but that, owing, perhaps, to some change of plan, they had been used in as rubble. These fragments are all of late Norman work, coinciding in date with the older portion of the adjacent Temple Church. One of these fragments has been deposited in the Museum of the Institute of British Architects.

THE PONTIFICAL CHORUS AT ST. PETER'S.

AMONG the interesting ceremonies which appertain to the Ecumenical Council the religious services are most attractive to visitors who stay at Rome for the season; and the choristers of the Sistine Chapel, always an important body, are now perhaps more than ever appreciated. The institution of the choir is in fact almost as old as the church itself. In the first century both men and women took a definite part in singing the hymns appointed for worship. The Synod of Antioch was the first to discern impropriety in mixed assemblies, and decreed that men and women should be separated by a partition or barrier dividing the church. The consequence was that the sections each responded at their own will and in their own way, and the result was so inharmonious that it was found necessary, in the year 364, to hold a council at Laodicea for the purpose of stopping singing altogether. Following this decision the clergy chose singing canons to conduct the musical part of the service, and of these the present choristers are the modern representatives. Then arose saintly Episcopal composers of sacred music, and, in 590, when Gregory I. occupied the Papal chair, the art had made a progress which he materially assisted by selecting the most appropriate music and reforming the rest. One of the results of his labour was the adoption of what were called after him the Gregorian chants, and the establishment of a school of singers which may be said still to exist. Gregory was an accomplished musical enthusiast, and led his choir himself, menacing them with his baton if they made mistakes. His "Conservatory," which was named Orphanotrophium, consisted of two houses, one situated by the side of the Lateran, and the other attached to the Basilica of St. Peter's, both of which he supported out of his own means, for the reception of children designed for the service of the Church. The business of this choir of boys was to accompany as sopranos the deep voices of the male singers. In the eleventh century the Orphanotrophium was still standing, but the soprano and alto choir had disappeared, only baritone and basses being engaged in the service. In late years, however, the Popes resuscitated the singing-school; and the choristers, who were completely trained in the Orphanotrophium, became accomplished professors by the time they were named members of the choir, which still consists of some of the most eminent musicians in Europe. The best voices were selected from all parts of the world, and even Kings were solicited to send their most admired singers to the church, whose singers occupied a high position at almost every great public festival and solemn observance. Of course the position of these artists was a good one, and their pay considerable, while they had opportunities of advancing their fortunes. At first the college of Pontifical singers consisted of thirty-two members—eight to each part. Julius III. reduced it to twenty-four, and Sixtus V. to twenty-one. At present it has been again augmented to the original thirty-two—eight basses and an equal number of tenors, contraltos, and sopranos. The pay is thirty crowns a month (about £6 10s.) but they have extra fees for special services. All of them wear an ecclesiastical habit, and all have received the tonsure. After twenty-five years of service they are entitled to superannuation, in a retreat to which they can retire. Our Engraving represents the members of the choir now officiating.

THE NEW SLADE PROFESSOR OF FINE ARTS.

THE Slade Professor of Fine Arts, Mr. John Ruskin, M.A., Christ Church, delivered his inaugural lecture in the Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford, on Tuesday afternoon, when the capacious edifice was filled with as large an audience as was ever seen at an Oxford public lecture, a great many ladies being present, together with the Vice-Chancellor, in his official capacity, and many of the senior members of the University. The attendance of numbers of undergraduates testified to the universal interest that Mr. Ruskin's proposed lectures had excited.

Mr. Ruskin, who was much applauded, commenced by stating how conscious he was of the importance of the task he had in hand. These lectures were to commence a new era in University education—the study of fine art was now introduced at Oxford. The importance of that study he then explained. He said he looked forward to the time when, in the Universities and in our chief schools, this branch of education would cease to be neglected. He enlarged upon the beneficial effects of the study of art upon the character of a nation; he showed how true it was that the art is the true exponent of the ethical condition of a people. The importance, then, that this study should be properly directed for this reason was evident; but there was another reason equally urgent. Each nation is peculiarly adapted to excel in certain schools of art; and, if energy be exerted in a direction where excellence is unattainable, much power is necessarily wasted—much improvement is lost to the country. Now, in England it may be noticed that our artists never excel in that style which may be called theological and sublime. This was chiefly owing to a grossness in our nature; our greatest men having never regarded what was foul with the same abhorrence as did such men as Dante. Again, we fall in highly-finished decorative designs. Our peculiar habits of mind necessitate this. We live in an atmosphere of too much care and anxiety to be able to give that entire devotion to the subject necessary to success. On the other hand, we show very great excellence in portrait-painting, in delineating home scenes, animal life, and landscapes. Now, in these branches of art ought our study to be encouraged, and we ought to avoid as much as possible attempting to fancy we admire that which we feel to be above us, or, rather, out of our line. He intended, with the assistance of the authorities, arranging in the Taylor Gallery a collection of paintings or prints indexed so as to show the chief points which are really beautiful in different styles of art. In his first course of lectures he would first examine three landscapes of Turner. He would then examine copies of animals, and point out the peculiar beauties inherent in the originals, as well as the necessity for accurate copying. He went so far as to express the hope that he might soon make some of our English youth prefer to look at a bird to shooting it—prefer to make wild animals tame to making tame animals wild. He then pointed out the splendid future England may have, with her splendid legacies of glory spreading over a thousand years to call her to fresh exertions. She may direct the world; but, in order to do that aright, she must first direct herself. Let her in every way encourage all that will ennoble and raise the moral character. Let her, therefore, improve the taste for art. Let her educate her sons in everything that will make them men, and let those sons remember that England still expects every man to do his duty.

Mr. Ruskin left the rostrum amidst prolonged applause. The special subjects of the several lectures of the talented Professor will be:—1, Feb. 15, "The Relation of Art to Religion;" 2, Feb. 22, "The Relation of Art to Morals;" 3, March 1, "The Relation of Art to Use;" 4, March 8, "Line;" 5, March 15, "Light;" 6, March 22, "Colour."

THE BOROUGH OF HUDDERSFIELD is to have a separate commission of the peace. A short time ago the Town Council adopted a petition to the Government asking for the grant of a commission, and a communication has now been received from the Home Office announcing that directions for compliance with the request had been issued, and asking the Council to submit to the Lord Chancellor the names of gentlemen who, in their opinion, are properly qualified to act as borough justices.

THE LOUNGER.

THE news of Mr. Bright's illness cast a cloud over the House when the members assembled on Tuesday—a very dark cloud at first, for it was reported that he was seriously ill—as bad as he was fourteen years ago, some said. And when it was remembered that he is fourteen years older than he then was, and consequently less able to bear the strain of such an affliction, no wonder that his friends were very sorrowful. Happily, though, it soon came to be known that his illness had been very much exaggerated. He is unwell, no doubt, and the sensations in his head are not pleasant; but I am able to say, on the best authority, that these uncomfortable sensations are nothing more than a derangement of the digestive organs may account for. The morning papers tell us that he left town on Wednesday. This is not correct. He was ordered by his physicians not to brave the intense cold of that bitter day. It is thought that a month's relaxation from business will restore him to health. That this may prove true will be the earnest desire of millions of people, both in England and in the United States. And here let me express my admiration of the noble and generous article upon Mr. Bright's illness in the *Times* of Wednesday. This is how it should be. The *Times* has often criticised sharply the policy and conduct of Mr. Bright; Mr. Bright has not unfrequently had to speak severely of the *Times*; and it is very pleasant to see this chivalrous magnanimity.

Another member has for a long time been very unwell—so unwell that he placed his retirement from office in his constituents' hands some time ago. I allude to Mr. Bass, the member for Derby. I am happy to inform you that, contrary to expectation, he turned up on Tuesday, looking very much better in every way than he appeared some weeks back. Mr. Harvey Lewis, too, who was away from the House all last Session—not from illness, but on account of some business perplexities—has put in an appearance again. Let us hope that he has got clear of his annoyances.

On Wednesday the writ for Southwark was issued. The troubles, therefore, of the Southwarkians will soon be over. The impression in the House is that Waterlooville will come in. The Conservative agents think they have a chance; but the knowing ones in election business laugh at this. I understand that some remedy will be found for the evils which the people of Southwark have had to endure. Probably an Act will be passed providing that when a member accepts an appointment as Ambassador, or Minister of a designation abroad, the appointment shall, *ipso facto*, vacate his seat.

It struck me as curious that in the debate on the Address not a word was said about the Ecumenical Council. I thought, when I saw Mr. Newdegate rise, that he would certainly give us a note of warning; but he did not touch upon the subject. Nor was a single reference made to what by many is thought to be a very serious affair. But is it really a serious affair? The *Times* has, in several articles, tried to lift it into importance. But I fancy the general opinion here is that to us it is a matter of no consequence at all. Nor do I believe that the rulers on the Continent care much how the Council may decide. Why should they? Suppose it declares that the Pope is infallible, will said Sovereigns indorse the decree, or take any steps to enforce it? Not a man of them. They will all, as with one accord, treat it as a nullity. And then what will happen? Why, outside the Pope's petty dominions, nothing. A century or two ago a decree of the Pope might have involved Europe in a war; but now he cannot hope that outside his dominions a single sword, or even a policeman's baton, will be drawn to enforce his decrees; not even in Ireland, where it has been said the Catholics are more Popish than their brethren at Rome. This saying, though, I suspect is a mistake; for when a well-known English Baronet, a Popish convert, pleaded hard for a Bishop's influence at a contested election because he, the Baronet, was the acknowledged organ of his Holiness, the Bishop archly replied, "You English Catholics think more of his Holiness than we do."

No man can say that the Government has not given Parliament enough to do. The programme of measures, whether we consider their number or the importance of the reforms contemplated, is enough to take our breath away as we read. It is not believable that all these measures can be passed, or even considered. However, here is the programme. It is before the public. Ministers are pledged to it, and if the pledges cannot be redeemed this year they must be next, or next, for really it seems to me that there is enough work cut out for three Sessions.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES.

The most interesting thing in the *Cornhill*, barring Charles Reade's story of "Put Yourself in His Place," is still "Shamrockiana." The "February Post-Bag," however, is very good. Of Mr. Matthew Arnold's "Puritanism and the Church of England" I can make nothing; it is simply unintelligible. Not that you cannot make out the bare meaning of the words; but that, when you have got it, the outcome has such an impossible look with it. Take this odd sentence:—"And surely it can hardly be denied (!) that the more eminently and exactly Christian type of righteousness is the type exhibited by Church worthies like Herbert, Ken, and Wilson, rather than that exhibited by the worthies of Puritanism; the cause being that the first mixed politics with religion so much less than the second." Now, this is really "rich." The first clause will be denied, and that, too, in spite of the advantages of men like Herbert, Ken, and Wilson—advantages in culture, in swimming with the stream, and so on. The Puritan will retort, and say that his worthies show much better than Laud, Headley, and the essentially haughty, though superficially gentle, Keble. And who is to decide? Besides, he will say—"Who is to blame for my being political? Who but yourselves? You treat me with injustice, and then complain of my troubling the water." Mr. Matthew Arnold's notion of religious union is that of submission to "doctrine, discipline, and worship as by law established." Now, he knows in his heart that the real ground of difference lies in the words italicised. A more insidious article never was written than this of Mr. Arnold's; but I wonder how many will see where the poison-bag really lies secreted!

In *Macmillan's* there is an article, entitled "A Sportsman's Apology," and signed "W," which resumes, in a very clear and pleasant vein, the question of fox-hunting. But the interest of all the rest of the number pales before that of "An Ark by the Riverside"—an account, by Agnes T. Harrison, of a visit to the East London Hospital for Children. I intend to visit this Hospital; so, perhaps, *Macmillan* will excuse this short notice of a good number.

In *Belgravia* there is a very ill-translated article about M. Henri Rochefort, which, however, contains some interesting details. Whatever may be said of the man's bad taste, he appears to have been from boyhood the consistent enemy of all tyranny, and to be in his own person modest and self-sacrificing to a degree which most people would pronounce insane.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

Who would have thought that the STRAND company could have made such a very creditable revival as it has out of the younger Colman's "Heir at Law"? I must own I was vastly pleased with this play, as cut down to three acts and given to an unreflecting Strand audience. It may have been the intention of the management to revive this old play solely and purposely for that capital actor, Mr. J. S. Clarke. If so, two birds have been killed with one stone, for Mr. Clarke reads Dr. Pangloss with infinite humour, and the other characters are excellently filled. I hope that I have tried to study eclecticism in my criticisms, and that I have never been caught "running a muck" against a company merely because it is the forte of the company to amuse in a light and sprightly fashion. I hate these cant dogmas of criticism; and it is annoying to find writers taking up a cant cry in a slipshod and inaccurate manner, regardless of facts and heedless of examples. For instance, the other

day I find a certain somebody roundly abusing the subjects chosen for modern burlesques, when, if he had taken the trouble to read the theatrical advertisements of any one day, or the *Era Almanack* of any one year, he would have discovered that he had tumbled across a mare's nest. Such a careless critic as this, with his nose in the air, would doubtless disdain the notion of seeing an old comedy well played at the Strand. But what a mistake he would have made in sneering at Colman, junior's, "Heir-at-Law"! I will pass Mr. John S. Clarke by for the present. The notion, no doubt, has got abroad that Mr. David James is a mere burlesque buffoon, a jig-maker, an eccentric dresser, and so on. But for all that he can play Zekiel Homespun, and right well, too. Honour where honour is due. Mr. James has studied the character, and over and over again he showed that he could act it. Some critics have found fault with the lachrymose appearance of Mr. James; but I am inclined to attribute this to the puckering-up of the upper lip consequent on a recently-shaved moustache. The provincial dialect was capably rendered, and the strong scene with Dick Dowlas, who proposes to injure the clothopper's sister, really very fine. The shrieks were just a trifle too forcible, but the passion concentrated into a broken voice and quivering lip I, for one, shall not easily forget. Miss Eleanor Bufton did her best with Cicely Homespun, but it is an extremely difficult character to do justice to. Miss Clair looked and dressed Caroline Dormer to perfection. The old *parvenu* couple fell to Mr. Turner (a very useful actor) and Mrs. Raymond, a great favourite already at the Strand. Mr. Crouch was the Dick Dowlas. This gentleman made a very creditable first appearance, and should certainly be encouraged. He is so unrestrained and buoyant that I really think he will do, but his face wants careful making up. Of course, Mr. J. S. Clarke made another hit. He is not Dr. Pangloss, but he is very amusing, and has brought the art of "business" to rare perfection. He has a laugh in every wrinkle of his face, and no actor knows better how to get on and off the stage. His Dr. Pangloss is made up after Rowlandson's Dr. Syntax; and if Mr. Clarke would only avoid false quantities, I for one should be better pleased.

Miss Kathleen Ryan, the daughter of Desmond Ryan, the dramatic and musical critic, has made her debut at the HAYMARKET; but, as she modestly chose the smallest part in the smallest possible farce for the occasion, I am unable to say definitely what Miss Ryan can do. What little she had to do she did very simply, and astonished the audience by her girlish and very diminutive appearance. But I honestly cannot judge of the capabilities of any actress in the character of Charlotte, in "Diamond Cut Diamond." By-the-way, save for the purpose of puzzling the worthy secretary of the Dramatic Authors' Society, what was the use of changing the name of the old farce to "How to Die for Love"? If it was a trap to catch critics, and induce them to notice the farce as a new production, it was a mean device. If it was a dodge for attracting the public, it was still more senseless. To see Mr. Compton and Mr. Kendal in "Diamond Cut Diamond" is a treat, and should certainly attract the public.

So they have revived "Formosa" at the PRINCESS, and virulent critics are already beginning to eat humble pie and to propose—preposterous argument!—that because the play is popular there must therefore be some good in it. There may be a great deal of good in it for those who like such rhodomontade; but I must remind you, Sir, that I never abused the play on the ground of its immorality. Such a standpoint was weak and pulseless from the first. I only say now what I said before, that I grieve to see such a clever man as Mr. Boucicault, who can do and has done such delightful things, selling his genius in this lamentable fashion.

Mr. Wybert Reeve has made a failure at the SURREY. His Irish drama is really not worth seeing. What a pity it is that he does so much! He has not time or patience to write one good comedy, and yet he knocks off several very small and very insignificant comedies and attempts a big drama. Consequently the comedies do not make a stir, and the drama has failed.

In my humble opinion, Mr. Bellevue's reading of "Hamlet" deserves the recognition of all Shakespearean students. Opinions may differ about the propriety of the moving and gesticulating figures behind the reader; but there cannot be any doubt that Mr. Bellevue has entered upon his task with the laudable enthusiasm of a true admirer of his poet. The reading itself is a masterly specimen of elocution and an interpretation of the play which has rarely been surpassed. The pictures are replete with fancy and archaeological study, and the entertainment cannot fail to be pronounced an intellectual treat.

"The Wandering Thespians" have volunteered a grand performance in St. George's Hall, in March, on behalf of the Great Northern Hospital, and will produce an original drama for the benefit of this useful charity, which needs funds.

MR. J. S. MILL ON THE EMIGRATION QUESTION. — Mr. J. S. MILL writes:—"As I perceive that part of a private letter to a friend referring to matters that had been in discussion between us, both verbally and by letter, has been printed as though it expressed my opinion on the memorial to the Queen which the meeting at the Lambeth Bazaar was held to promote (to which meeting my letter, so quoted, had no reference whatever), I should be obliged by your giving insertion to the letter I wrote in reply to the request to sign the memorial, of which letter I inclose a copy." The following is the letter referred to:—"Dear Sir,—It is not in my power to sign the memorial as drawn up; for, in the first place, I have not heard, and do not believe, that the Queen 'has been advised to give up the colonies.' In the second place, the entire control of the waste lands of the colonies was, a quarter of a century ago, deliberately given up by the mother country to the colonial Governments. I thought at the time and still think that this was a mistake; but any attempt now to revoke the concession could have no effect but to provoke the separation which the memorialists desire to avert. No measure, therefore, for making the colonial lands accessible to British emigrants can now be taken by any authority save the Governments of the different colonies. The Queen cannot even propose such a measure to any colonial Legislature, except through the medium of an Administration drawn from and responsible to the colonial Legislature itself. Lastly, I think the proposed proclamation would be liable to great misinterpretation in the colonies, unless a wish for such a declaration were previously expressed by the colonies themselves; and, though I agree with the memorialists in thinking that there should be systematic consultation on colonial affairs with representatives of the colonies, I think it should be with the elected authorities of those countries, and not with individuals selected by the Ministry at home, generally on very imperfect knowledge, to be made members of the Privy Council.—I am, &c., J. S. MILL.—Mr. C. W. Eddy."

THE IMPROVED INDUSTRIAL DWELLINGS COMPANY.—The directors, in the report of their proceedings for the half year commencing July 1, and ending Dec. 31, 1869, state that a further sum of £67 19s. has been expended on buildings now completed, and £6736 9s. 1d. on works in progress, making an expenditure of £6804 8s. 1d. during the half year, and a total expenditure of £133,855 0s. 3d. since the formation of the company on capital account. The gross rents received during the past half year amount to £6657 7s. 10d., and, after paying all charges and crediting the proper amounts to the repairs and leasehold redemption funds, there is a net profit of £3606 10s. 7d. The sum of £5229 13s. 7d., which includes £1623 3s. brought forward from the last half year, is available for division among the shareholders; but the directors recommend that a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent per annum only be paid—which will absorb the sum of £2944 13s. 9d.—and that the balance—viz., £2284 19s. 10d.—be carried forward. There has been no diminution in the rental at the several estates during the half year; but, owing to the great depression of trade at Greenwich and at the east end of London, no improvement has taken place in the occupation of Nelson-buildings at Greenwich and Tower-buildings at Wapping. The directors hope, however, that the opening of the East London Railway station, in the immediate vicinity of the latter buildings, may be the means of filling the tenements now empty. Five blocks of buildings are in course of erection at Ebury-street, Pimlico, on a portion of the estate of the Marquis of Westminster. These buildings will provide 110 tenements of two and three rooms each, and ten large shops; and will accommodate about 600 persons of all ages. The directors hope that these dwellings will be completed and occupied before Michaelmas next. The negotiations with the late Marquis of Westminster, referred to in the last report, for the lease of a site in Ebury-square, Pimlico, has been completed, and sixty-five dwellings, with four shops, affording accommodation for about 330 persons, are already in course of erection. The directors hope that these dwellings will also be completed and occupied before Michaelmas. The fifty-four additional tenements at Waterlooville-buildings, Bethnal-green, are nearly completed, twenty-five being already occupied by eligible tenants. The contract time for the erection of the buildings will not expire until March next. These buildings have been constructed on a new plan, and, being much approved by the tenants, the directors contemplate a further outlay on the same principle.

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP CAPTAIN.

THIS magnificent turret-ship, which arrived at Portsmouth last Saturday, has been an object of much interest to naval officers and other visitors, of whom already there have been a large number on board, for the purpose of inspecting this latest production of naval architectural skill. It will be remembered that early in the year 1866 the merits of the turret system were under discussion, and it was eventually decided by the Board of Admiralty to give Captain Cowper Coles, C.B., an opportunity of developing his own ideas of what an efficient seagoing cruiser on the turret principle should be. From a list of eminent shipbuilders, he selected Messrs. Laird, of Birkenhead, to whom was entrusted the building of the new turret-ship, which was to be called the Captain. The reputation which Messrs. Laird enjoy as shipbuilders would of itself have been sufficient to justify the selection, added to which, however, was the important fact that they had already gained no small amount of practical experience in the designing and building of turret-ships for foreign Powers. Messrs. Laird, in conjunction with Captain Coles, prepared a design and specification of a ship, intended to carry out the objects in view; and, the Admiralty having approved of the design, a contract was duly entered into in February, 1867, and she was recently completed. Some details of this noble ship may not be uninteresting. We may commence by giving her principal dimensions, which are as follow:—Length over all, 355 ft.; ditto between perpendiculars, 320 ft.; breadth extreme, 53 ft. 3 in.; tonnage, 4272 tons; draught of water abaft, 21 ft. 6 in.; ditto forward, 22 ft. 6 in.; height of freeboard or upper deck gunwale above water line, 8 ft.; height of port sill in turrets above water line, 10 ft. The hull does not present a vulnerable point, being completely protected by armour of more than usual thickness, from 5 ft. below the water line to the upper gunwale, right fore and aft, by means of which not only is the midship part of the ship, where the machinery and turrets are placed, but also the quarters for officers and men, efficiently guarded, which is not the case in some vessels on the belt system. The defence of the turret is, of course, a matter of paramount importance, and opposite these the plating is no less than 8 in. in thickness, and 7 in. on the remainder of the midship portion, slightly reduced towards the ends. These plates rest on a backing of East India teak, 12 in. thick, through which they are bolted to the skin of the ship, which is 1½ in. thick (formed of two ¾-in. plates), the whole supported by massive framework, 10 in. deep; longitudinal girders 10 in. in depth further supporting the backing. At the level of the top of the armour the upper deck is covered with iron 1½ in. thick for the extent of the turret spaces; and with 1 in. for the remainder, supported by iron beams 14 in. deep, and covered with teak 6 in. thick. The general construction of the hull, which is similar to that of other large ironclads, combines a complete arrangement of water-tight double-bottom wing passages and other bulkheads; the fore-end in particular being made of enormous strength, the hull terminating in a massive wrought-iron stem formed as a ram, by means of which, in an encounter with an enemy's fleet, great mischief would doubtless be effected. The armament of this monster ironclad will be of a very formidable description. It is to consist of six guns, four of which are to be placed in the turrets and two on the upper deck. The turrets, which project through circular openings in the upper deck, are each to be mounted with two 600-pounder 25-ton guns; those fore and aft on the upper deck are to be 100-pounder 6½-ton chase guns. That part of the turret exposed to shot is covered with armour plates of 10 in. in thickness near the ports and for one third the circumference, the remainder being plates 9 in. thick, the lower part and the gearing being protected by the armour-plating with which the hull is covered. The turrets are each 27 ft. external and 22 ft. 6 in. internal diameter. The poop and fore-castle are connected by a splendid centre spar-deck, 26 ft. wide, running above the turrets, giving free communication from one end of the ship to the other in all weathers, and the area of this deck will be sufficient to admit of the whole working and manœuvring of the ship, thus leaving the upper deck clear from the poop to the fore-castle for the training of the turret-guns, one of which can be worked from within 6 deg. of the line of the keel forward to 6 deg. of the line of the keel aft, the only obstacle being the foot of the main tripod, which occupies but little space. The lower part below the armour-shell of the turrets is of a cellular form, large openings being left for entrance and passing in ammunition, the openings serving also to ventilate and light the lower decks. The turrets are supported by a strong girder on the lower deck, and revolve on a series of cast-iron rollers, being kept in position by a solid wrought-iron central spindle, securely fixed in the deck, and carried down to the orlop-deck, and they are fitted with a complete system of the hand turning gear, in addition to the steam gear. The steam gear is worked by a separate pair of engines for each turret, placed on the orlop-deck below the turret, where they are thoroughly protected from any chance of injury. The gear by which these engines can be started is so arranged that it can be worked either on the lower deck, outside the turret, or by a system of rods led up through the central spindle to the sighting-platform, by the captain of the turret himself, who is thus enabled to aim and direct the guns in the turret. Hinged iron bulwarks at the level of the upper deck, such as are to be found in the Monarch, are dispensed with, as it will not be necessary that men should be upon the upper deck when at sea, and it is therefore sufficiently protected by means of light iron stanchions with wire ropes, which could be lowered down into the hollow water way when about to meet an enemy. The Captain has two separate pairs of double-trunk engines, each pair driving a separate screw-propeller, 17 ft. in diameter. Her engines are of 900-horse power nominal; but the indicated horse-power will be at least 5400. There are surface condensors, jacketed cylinders, and appliances for economising fuel. The four cylinders have each an effective diameter of 80 in., with a stroke of 3 ft. 3 in. The steam is supplied from eight boilers, having twenty-eight furnaces. By the arrangement of the masts and rigging, one great objection to the suitability of the turret system for seagoing full-rigged ships is removed, as the fire of the guns will not be masked for the whole length of the rigging, or the safety of the masts endangered by letting go all but one or two shrouds. The lower masts, which are of iron, are on the tripod system of Captain Coles, and are so arranged that the tripods of the foremast and mizzenmast come into the fore-castle and poop, and the upper rigging is attached to the spar-deck, above range of fire, so that there is no obstruction to the training of the guns, which will have an arc from the foremost turret of 154 deg. and from the after turret of 156 deg. The space under the poop and fore-castle, and between the upper and lower decks, is appropriated to the accommodation for officers and men. Below the lower deck are the magazines, shell-rooms, water-tanks, provision-rooms, and all the store-rooms, in addition to the engines, boilers, and coal-bunkers. There are two magazines and two shell-rooms, one of each below each turret, and the shot and shell can be hoisted direct into the turret. On the spar-deck, fore-castle, and poop arrangements have been made for stowage of boats, anchors, &c., and there is a fixed bulwark, 3 ft. 6 in. and 4 ft. high all round.

NATIONAL REFORM UNION.—A numerous meeting of the executive committee of the Union was held at Manchester on Tuesday evening—Mr. W. Stokes in the chair. The agent, Mr. J. D. Morton, read a report of the work of the committee during the last eight days, in which it was stated that two local meetings had been held during the past week; that an important meeting was held at Nottingham, by the Union branch there, on Monday night; and that other meetings were in preparation. The agent also reported that applications had been made by several new Liberal Associations to join the Union. A request from the Financial Reform Union of London for the executive committee to join that society in memorialising the Chancellor of the Exchequer in regard to further fiscal reforms was read and discussed, and ultimately left over for subsequent consideration. After the transaction of other business, the agent was called upon by the chairman to read the Queen's Speech. Its reading was followed by a long discussion upon the various paragraphs of the Speech. The general feeling was one of satisfaction and approval of the Speech, and strong confidence in Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues.

Literature.

The Story of Our Colonies: with Sketches of their Present Condition. By R. R. FOX BOURNE, Author of "English Seamen under the Tudors," &c. London: Hogg and Son.

The fact that this useful story or history is dedicated, by permission, to Earl Granville is cheering, as a kind of hint that his Lordship is not altogether as cool about the colonies as he has led people to believe. But Mr. Bourne might have touched the Colonial Minister's sympathy more had he dwelt at greater length on the present condition and prospects of Canada, Australia, &c., and the advantages to be derived from them at home, and given less about the early discoverers, who had little or nothing to do with colonisation. Really, Christopher Columbus and Hendrick Hudson are nothing new in story; and Captains Cook, King, and Clarke are personal friends of every lad of twelve. However, the lad has a trick of forgetting all about it by the time he is a man, when such trifles as political economy and domestic flirtation change the field of enterprise. The present volume may, therefore, be useful to remind readers of early times, whilst later and more important periods are familiar to us all through eternal travellers and eternal newspapers. By way of beginning at the beginning, Mr. Bourne opens fire with "Cathayan Fables;" but very few chapters say all that can be said, in brief, of the conquest of America, of the French in Canada, and the changing fortunes of the Islands. These accounts are certainly prosaic compared with Froude's admirable articles on Humphrey Gilbert and Raleigh, in the *Foreign Quarterly* years ago, and since reprinted; but they are carefully compiled pages, and may at least claim the merit of not being fine writing. The chapters on Jamaica form a terrible story; but it is difficult to see whether the English have been more cruel masters of settlements than people of other countries have been, either in the East or in the West. Mr. Bourne's impartiality seems to us to lead him to great severity in his strictures on England; just as schoolmasters' sons are frequently flogged for nothing, merely to show that there is no favouritism. Oddly enough, he gives no mention of the recent lamentable insurrection under Governor Eyre (whom he elsewhere speaks of as Sir Edward Eyre); but the scenes of 1760 and 1832 will be quite enough to chill anybody's blood without any assistance from our too-constant north-easters. The rise of Canada will be recognised as one of the wonders of all times, together with the rise of Nova Scotia, &c. The way in which these colonies have held their own, with no more than reasonable assistance, should surely be sufficient to satisfy any alarmists. Hudson's Bay—that is to say, the company—will probably soon be a thing of the past. It is bound to follow the East India Company. They have never done anything but manage to secure good dividends for lazy and ignorant shareholders, who cared not for the wants of the world and their own duties to society. Returning eastward, it seems as well to pass over all the disgusting details of the African settlements and the slave trade, which, at last, has happily had its day. Australia is the real feature of the remainder of the book; for, beyond a mention, India has no place here, being, in fact, anything but a colony. The continent, as it may be called, with Tasmania and New Zealand, have remarkable histories, especially in connection with our convicts; but, as far as our settlements are concerned, they are so recent and so well known by the many who pay flying visits for health, or who write big books after long experience, that it is unnecessary to do more than indicate the useful and interesting character of Mr. Bourne's compilation. It is pleasant to be reminded once more of such bold explorers as Sturt and Eyre and Robert O'Hara Burke and his companions, who certainly penetrated through Cooper's Creek to the Gulf of Carpentaria, and only lived long enough to tell their story in their own journals. Mr. Bourne winds up with a carefully-considered chapter, called "The End of the Story;" the value of our colonies, the political and commercial advantages derived from them, and their importance as fields of emigration. There is something here, indeed, for Earl Granville.

Memoirs of Sir George Sinclair, Bart., of Ulster. By JAMES GRANT. London: Tinsley Brothers.

Mr. James Grant having been requested to write the memoirs of Sir George Sinclair, Bart., of Ulster, has accepted the task and performed it with fervour and ability, the result being a large handsome volume, which will be very welcome to a large number of readers. According to Mr. James Grant, piety seems to have been the leading characteristic of his hero, and that grace appears to have been, like the family lands, hereditary. The founder of the race was called William de Sancto Claro, who received the manor of Roslin from the pious King David of Scotland. The grandmother of Sir George, Lady Janet Sinclair, wrote a letter to her son on her deathbed, which Mr. Grant considers an unsurpassable embodiment of the most exalted "Christian philosophy" in which the following passages occur:—"As to your own concerns, I entreat you to observe economy, and beware of impositions. Reside as much in Calithness as possible; and do not trust too much to others in the conduct of your affairs. You'll find few to trust. . . . Beware of cautionary and engagements for others." Whatever one may think of the Christianity of these sentiments, there can be no doubt regarding their worldly wisdom. The piety of Sir George himself seems to have been of an Evangelical Free Kirk complexion, which remained untouched amid the dangers and allurements of wickedness in high places. Mr. Grant records with pride how Sir George boldly refused to dine with King William IV. on a Sunday, although his Royal Highness had shown him every possible mark of favour. The nature and career of Sir George brought him in contact with a great number of remarkable people. He was thrashed by Lord Byron at Harrow, and taken prisoner at Göttingen by Napoleon the Great. He was in constant correspondence with statesmen, poets, philosophers, and divines—including James Grant himself, who claims, in his preface, to be particularly well qualified to understand and to set forth the graces of his hero's character. "Nor could anyone have had a more exalted appreciation of his intellectual attainments or warmer admiration of his moral and religious worth than he who has penned these memoirs of Sir George, now in the hands of the reader."

An Arm-Chair in the Smoking-Room. London: S. Rivers and Co.

This volume seems much like a collection of magazine papers; only it is difficult to decide upon any magazine which would have accepted them all. Not *Blackwood*, certainly; and the mere notion of such a thing would be enough to frighten Mr. Froude and *Fraser's Magazine* out of Paternoster-row entirely. The fact is, the contents of this volume are the lightest of the light. The author is not above giving a chapter on colouring clay pipes and another on meerschaums; but the chapter on cigars really contains some useful information and hints. The long series of papers which may be said to describe courtship through the half-dozen stages between flirtation and the wedding-breakfast, are not without merit in the touch-and-go way; but the writer in one chapter praises flirtation as teaching experience, and in another denounces it as inducing heartlessness. Some of the stories are of very good light magazine class—the "Story of the Three Whispers," for instance, the "Story Heard in the Smoking-Room," and the amusing sketch called "Smoking Strictly Prohibited." Some occasional pages of verse are anything but poetry, but they are thoroughly readable, which poetry often is not. The "Arm-Chair" will be found equally pleasing, whether in the smoking-room or the railway carriage.

Mossdale. A Tale. By ANNA M. DE JONGH. Edinburgh: William P. Nimmo.

If the leading masters of poetic art on all grand occasions avoid the everyday themes of actual life, the same cannot be said

of our novelists and story-tellers. To them the Poor-Law Board is far more interesting than King Arthur's round table, and the flourishing founder of a factory a greater hero than Galahad of the Holy Grail. They sympathise with the throb of the steam-engine and the click of the electric telegraph. Of this praiseworthy fraternity, in a mild, womanly way, is the gentle authoress of "Mossdale," the heroism of which is closely connected with cotton-spinning, and the moral is matrimony. The scenes are laid in a ravine of Alsace, and the most ravishing passages are sanctified by virtuous love. What more would you have? It were a reflection on the morals and penetration of society should "Mossdale" miss the market.

The Story of Count Ulaski, and other Poems. By ETA MAWR. London: Provost and Co.

Coming to hand as if in direct illustration of poetic perversity, Eta Mawr sends us a volume of poems, the leading one being "The Story of Count Ulaski," which ends by calling upon us to

Mourn for the dead, Sarmatia is no more.

Let us hasten to express our conviction that, although Eta Mawr opens with a subject as dead as Queen Anne, she is very much alive herself; as witness the lively way she lets fly at the reviewers. It is true, her weapon is as blunt as a kitchen-poker, but she lays it about the ears of the poor critics without mercy. All things considered, we should rather be excused offering a decided opinion on Eta's own productions; but there cannot be a doubt that her translations of German poetry are excellent and well selected; and, taking her book altogether, it is decidedly an honour to the head and heart of the fair authoress.

Infant Life; its Nurture and Care. By E. N. G. With an Introductory Preface by ERASMUS WILSON, F.R.S. London: Sampson Low, Son, and Marston.

The Mother's Friend. London: Hodder and Stoughton.

It is for sensible women to decide whether it were better for them to mingle in the discussion of public questions, and enter into competition with the "lords of the creation" in politics, medicine, and other disagreeable labours, or to abide by the old natural duties of home, like their mothers before them. Meanwhile, let us recommend to those who have chosen the better part, a clever little book on the treatment of babies, written by a sensible woman and a mother, in which they will find some information of the greatest importance to themselves and to their husbands. If "the world must be peopled," let intelligence enable those who undertake the responsibility to mitigate its inevitable sorrows.

"The Mothers' Friend" is a little publication designed, as we are informed in the preface, to make home happy and to encourage mothers "in their arduous task." The means to secure this desirable end appears in the shape of a series of little melancholy stories, calculated, one would fancy, to discourage tender-hearted womankind altogether, especially when accompanied by the poetry and the woodcuts. We must be mistaken, however, for the work is in its "twenty-second year," and the demand increases as time advances.

A Handbook of Reference and Quotation, Mottoes and Aphorisms, from Shakspeare. London: Hogg and Son.

Here we have a hand-book of reference and quotation, made up of mottoes and aphorisms from Shakspeare, strongly and neatly bound, comprising 2700 selections, with an index consisting of nearly 9000 references to the varied words and ideas of the mottoes. All this must be dearly welcome to those who desire to refresh and invigorate their minds with the wit, wisdom, and humanising charity of the immortal bard. In regard to the compiler, we may truly say, with Osric in "Hamlet," "A hit, a very palpable hit."

THE MEMORIAL TO THE LATE LORD DERBY.—A large and influential meeting was held on Wednesday of the committee for the Derby Memorial Fund, at the Burlington Hotel. Lord Chelmsford was voted to the chair, and stated that the object of the meeting was to make the committee a corporate and properly-constituted body, for the purpose of carrying out the proposed memorial to the late Earl of Derby in the form of a statue, with such accessories to it as may hereafter be determined upon; the site of the statue, and the expense to be incurred, to depend upon the amount of subscriptions received. He said that the honorary secretaries felt justified in stating that, from indications already given, subscriptions to a large amount might be confidently expected. After the resolutions for formally effecting the object of the meeting had been carried, Mr. Disraeli proposed a vote of thanks to the hon. secretaries, Lord Henry Lennox, M.P., and Mr. Frederick Gray. The right hon. gentleman said that no one except those who had themselves filled such a post knew the arduous duties that devolved upon them—the discouragements and annoyances so continually met with, &c., and particularly at the season of the year when the melancholy event of Lord Derby's death occurred. They deserved every credit for the manner in which they had brought together so influential a committee. A long list of subscriptions was given in, which will shortly be published.

THE FEMALE SCHOOL OF ART.—On Wednesday the annual meeting for the distribution of prizes to the members of this now well-known school of art was held, in the theatre of the South Kensington Museum, under the presidency of Sir Stafford Northcote. There was a very large assemblage of art-students present, and Sir Digby Wyatt, Mr. Cole, C.B., Professor Donaldson, and other gentlemen well known in connection with art-subjects were present. The proceedings opened with the reading of a statement by Mr. Valpy respecting the work of the institution during the year. From this statement it appeared that the present number of students on the books was 122, while at the close of the summer session the number was 141. On Dec. 21 and 22, 1868, the annual exhibition of students' works was held at Queen-square, and was visited by 593 persons. At the annual third-grade examination, held in February last, at South Kensington, ten students presented themselves from this school. Of this number five obtained full certificates for the first group. Their names were Martha Clarke, Ellen Hancock, Alice Blanche Ellis, Ellen O. Wheeler Smith, and Blanche Macarthur. At the second-grade local examination, held at the school on March 9 and 10, sixty-one students presented themselves: of these fifty-three passed in one or more subjects, twenty-three obtained prizes (having had the mark "excellent" for one or more of their papers), and ten obtained certificates of the second grade. Ninety-nine students sent up, on April 9, a total of 1893 elementary and 319 advanced works, in competition for national prizes and the Queen's gold medal. Eleven third grade prizes were awarded in the elementary section, and twelve prizes in the advanced section, making a total of twenty-three prize drawings. The Queen's gold medal had been won by Julia Pocock, and her Majesty had been graciously pleased to purchase one of her water-colour drawings, "A Head from the Life." The national silver medal had been awarded to Mary Whiteman Webb for studies of flowers from nature. National Queen's prizes, consisting of books, had also been awarded to Julia Pocock for life-studies of the figure, to Mary Whiteman Webb for flowers from nature, to Alice Blanche Ellis for flowers from nature, to Emily Slous for a modelled hand from nature, and to Aimée Messenger for a botanical sketch. Julia Pocock had taken the five guineas offered by Mr. Alexander Macarthur for the best modelled hand from nature. Ellen Macrae and Sarah McGregor gained the two prizes for designs for folding-screens given by Messrs. Turner and Sons. Catherine Banks and Sarah McGregor had been pupil-teachers for the past year. Sarah McGregor had been transferred to the training-class at South Kensington, and Mary Whiteman Webb had been appointed pupil-teacher in her place. The committee were again happy in being able to state that the school was free from all debt. The Committee of Council on Education awarded, in August last, thirty-nine bonuses among the head masters and mistresses of the ninety-nine schools of art in connection with the Science and Art Department, being one sum of £60, three sums of £40 each, four sums of £30, ten sums of £20, and twenty sums of £10. Out of the thirty-nine teachers thus distinguished the committee were gratified to find the name of Miss Gane, the head mistress of the school, third on the list; and the committee could not but recognise, also, that on her able general management and efficient administration the prosperity of the establishment mainly depended. The committee considered that the school had this year been decidedly stronger in the higher branches of art: they wished they could add in that, also, of design. Julia Pocock, in the advanced stages of the figure; and Mary Whiteman Webb, in studies of flowers from nature, deserved the highest commendation; Ellen Macrae, with Emily Slous, in modelling, and Charlotte Maria Nobis, in the elementary stages of the figure, merited honourable mention. Alice Locke, Alice Blanche Ellis, Martha Clarke, Ellen Hancock, Emily Hentsch, and Eleanor Manly gave promise of following the good example set them. The prizes, which were very numerous, were then distributed. The Queen's gold medal was given last, Miss Pocock being the winner.



MEETING OF ARTISTS IN PARIS TO DISCUSS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW FRENCH FINE-ART ASSOCIATION.

FINE-ART REUNION
AT PARIS.

A VERY important reunion of eminent French artists was held, last week, in the studio of the sculptor, M. Carrier Bellenze, of which we publish an illustration. The object of the meeting was to consider the propriety of organising a new association, not only for the purpose of enabling its members to exhibit their works for sale in appropriate galleries constructed for the purpose, and to establish an artistic bank of credit, but also to form a retiring fund for the assistance of infirm or aged members of the profession requiring such aid.

It was proposed, first, to remind the State of the offer made of free galleries for the annual exhibitions of pictures, sculpture, and engravings; secondly, to obtain a large plot of ground for erecting studios and dwellings for the superannuated members who should require the aid secured by the retiring fund; thirdly, to organise their own exhibitions and bear the entire expense themselves. The funds are to consist of the charges for membership and accompanying certificates, and will go principally to furnish the retiring pensions.

The prices of works exhibited are to be known to the directors of the society, and three per cent of those prices on all the works sold is to be paid to the fund. Artists who have already exhibited three times in the Fine-Art Exhibition of Paris will have the right of membership; and to claim the benefit of the pension a member must have exhibited twenty times, be invalid by accident or sickness, or have reached the age of sixty years. Artists who have executed public works and monuments, and have therefore been



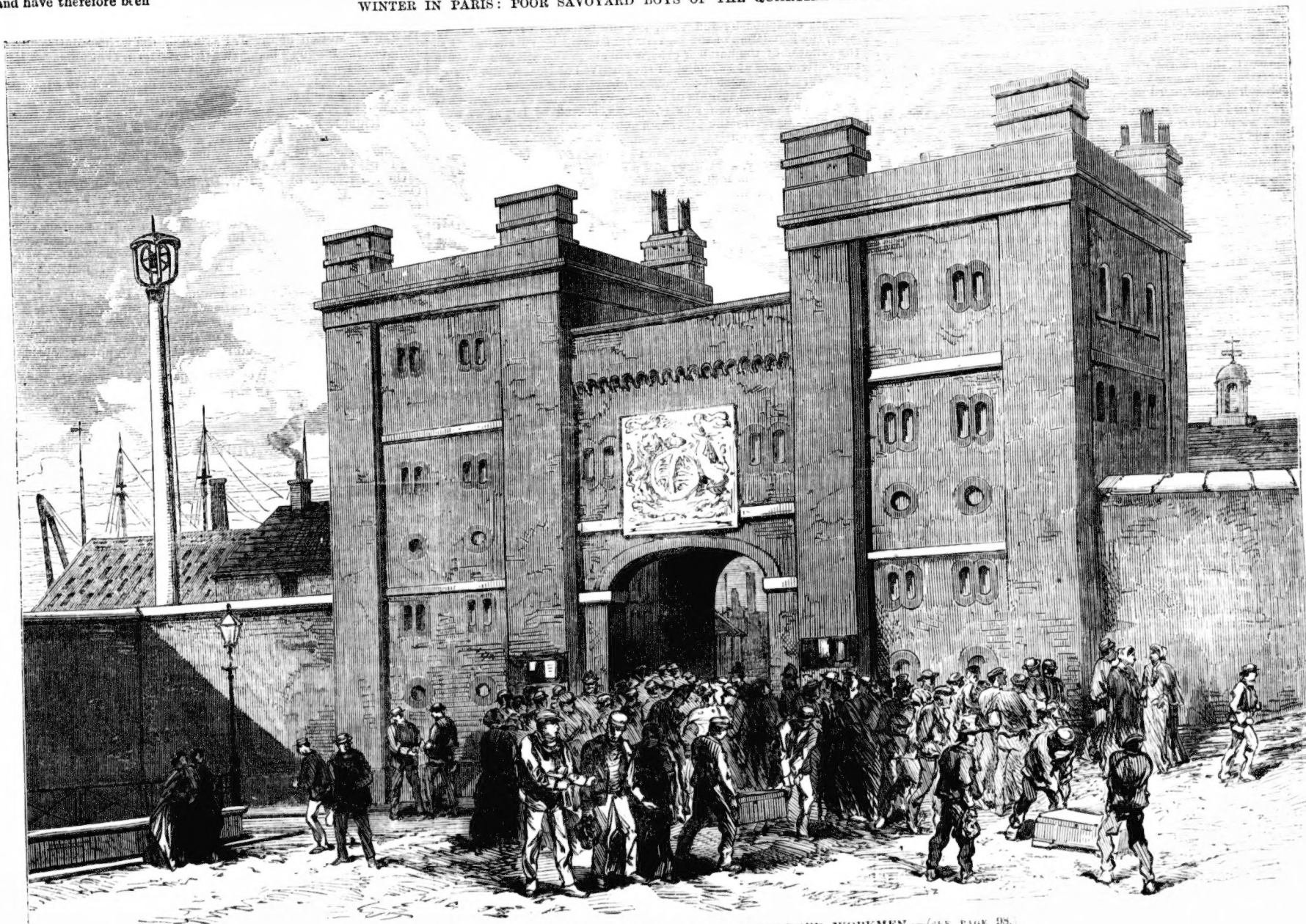
WINTER IN PARIS: POOR SAVOYARD BOYS OF THE QUARTIER MOUFFETARD.

unable to exhibit at the galleries, may claim to be candidates, subject to the deliberation of the committee. Orphans and widows of artists will enjoy the same privileges as the deceased member would have claimed, for a period of not less than ten years after his death; but should a member die at a very advanced age, these benefits will only be conferred on the widow in accordance with the decision of the council. Part of the fees on the entries of pictures for exhibition will be devoted to the support of the provincial galleries to which Parisian artists mostly contribute.

It will, therefore, be seen that a movement of very great interest has been commenced in a profession, for the benefit of which the good wishes of the whole community will be sincerely expressed.

LITTLE
SAVOYARDS IN
PARIS.

We hear less about the winter's distress in Paris than we do here. It may be doubted whether in the whole of that renovated city there is any spot where misery is so apparent as it is in a dozen districts of London; but then the French capital has not half the area even of what we should call London proper, and the distress has less obviously sordid surroundings, and is not the subject of constant newspaper comment, Parliamentary question, and official returns. Those who know Paris well have seen unmistakable signs of want there, however; and even now there are quarters where a few of the houses are untouched by modern improvements—certainly streets where the poor congregate. And Paris has its poor destitute children too, cared for



GATEWAY OF CHATHAM DOCKYARD: DEPARTURE OF DISCHARGED WORKMEN.—(SEE PAGE 95.)

often by benevolent societies, by the sisters of religious orders devoting themselves to works of charity, and by various organisations in which they minister, but still very often hungry and in need of clothing and shelter. We publish this week an illustration taken from a suggestive drawing in the artist's sketch-book—a group of those poor little Savoyards who so often represent the working children of the City. We have long ceased to feel any especial pity for our own juvenile sweeps. We imagine that the invention of the "ramoneur" has definitely abolished "climbing boys," and no longer shudder at the thought of a poor little creature sticking in the narrow angle of a chimney up which he has been forced by a cruel taskmaster. Perhaps the practice of sending boys up flues has not quite come to an end; but we hear little of it, and don't trouble ourselves to inquire. The little dusky rogues in our picture represent not the climbing boys, but the sooty cleansers of charcoal-fumed chimneys. They are a patient and laborious race, with a kind of sympathy with the dogs which are to be seen in their company that leads them often to spare a portion of their scanty food to entertain their four-footed companions. Let us hope that in the good time coming, when liberty and constitutional government is to be consummated and the edifice to be crowned, these poor little men of the future will not be left out of the regards of their fellow-citizens.

MUSIC.

MR. HENRY LESLIE began the fifteenth season of his concerts on Thursday week, in St. James's Hall, and was favoured with a large attendance. We are curious to know how many persons wished chiefly to hear his celebrated choir, and how many were attracted by other features in the entertainment. If Mr. Leslie could himself know this, the chances are his choir would once more be made the chief attraction. There is no singing in England like that with which it favours us; and the public are quite alert enough to note the fact. But Mr. Leslie has, during recent years, sought much after novelty. Hence the appearance of an orchestra at his concerts, and hence the playing at the particular concert under notice of Beethoven's quintet in E flat for piano and wind instruments. We have nothing whatever to say against this work; nor can fault be found with its performance. The truth remains, however, that people were chiefly drawn by the madrigals and part-songs which, happily, formed a large part of the evening's scheme. There were several novelties in the programme, among them an eight-part psalm by Berthold Tours, "God be merciful," which shows considerable skill and yet more pretence. Mr. Henry Smart's setting of Longfellow's "Curfew," a part-song by Mr. J. G. Calcott, and another by Mr. Leslie, were among the works best performed and best received, each obtaining an encore. Mr. Sims Reeves was the only solo vocalist, and it is needless to say that his three songs—"Adelaide," "The Pilgrim of Love," and "Tom Bowling" were enthusiastically applauded. Several glee were contributed by the Concert Glee Union, in the performance of which we could not but see room for improvement. At the next concert Herr Joachim will play Beethoven's violin concerto; and Mendelssohn's music to "Antigone" will be a leading feature.

Last Saturday the birthday of Mendelssohn (Feb. 3, 1809) was celebrated at the Crystal Palace in appropriate style, an entire programme being devoted to selections from his works. First came the overture to "Athalia," splendidly executed and much applauded. We could hear this fine prelude often with pleasure. It may not equal the master's "concert overtures," but it is too good never to be divorced from the work it introduces. "Hear my prayer" followed. To name this beautiful inspiration is enough, because everybody knows and loves it. Nothing Mendelssohn has written is more divine, or more fittingly accompanies a sacred text. The performance was hardly worthy the work, for, although the band and chorus did well, Madame Sherrington marred the solo, either by over-expression or by dragging the tempo. This was a disappointment; yet worse remained. Mr. Vernon Rigby could not sing in the "Lobgesang," owing to hoarseness; and nobody could be found to take his place—no other tenor, that is (because Madame Sherrington volunteered and actually gave all Mr. Rigby's music, the first air excepted). She did so with remarkable correctness, and fairly earned the liberal applause bestowed. But, after all, a soprano is not a tenor; and the general performance suffered materially. In other respects, there was little or nothing of which to complain. Miss Sophia Vinta made a good second soprano; the chorus sang with correctness and spirit; and the orchestral movements were given with all the finish to which Mr. Manns has accustomed us.

Mr. Wood's second series of Saturday Evening Concerts began under fairly auspicious conditions. There was not a crowded house; but the audience was nevertheless large, and the performance, generally, good. The orchestral works comprised Beethoven's symphony in D (No. 2); the overture to "The Merry Wives of Windsor;" that to "La Gazza Ladra;" and Weber's "Concert-Stück," in which last the solo piano was taken by Miss Madeline Schiller. Again we had to note the interest with which the audience listened to the symphony throughout. Not a sign of impatience appeared, while the applause after each movement was general and hearty. This is encouraging, because a perfectly reliable proof of advanced taste. Mr. Leslie conducts but a small band at these concerts; nevertheless, everything was fairly played and fairly effective. The vocalists were Madame Addyes Scott, a new singer of average ability; Miss Helen Dalton, who may take a good position one day, if she works on; Mr. Sims Reeves, and Signor Foli. Mr. Reeves could not get through his first song, owing to hoarseness, and an apology was made for him by the conductor, which the audience accepted in kindly fashion.

The last Monday Popular programme began with Mozart's quartet in D major (op. 10), one of that master's most beautiful and most characteristic works. The first movement is especially remarkable for the boldness of its treatment and the consequent surprises with which the ear is assailed. We shall look for the speedy repetition of this charming example of a great composer. In Mendelssohn's "Variations Sérieuses" Mr. Franklin Taylor made a genuine success, and obtained a unanimous recall. More artistic playing has rarely been heard, even in St. James's Hall, and the player ought now to take the high position he deserves. A chaconne by the old Italian fiddler Vitali served to show Herr Joachim's wonderful execution. The music itself is no more than interesting as a specimen of the art of the period in which it was written. Is it necessary to say that Herr Joachim was encored, in the hope that he would give something else? He accepted the encore, but the something else he did not give. Beethoven's trio in D (op. 70) closed the concert grandly. It showed the greatest of all musicians at his greatest; and the wonderful first movement, as well as the not less wonderful Largo, astonished and delighted the audience. Madlle. Carola, the vocalist, sang three songs—by Beethoven, Schumann, and Schubert respectively—with very good effect.

On Tuesday was given, in St. George's Hall, the first of a series of "Musical Evenings," under the direction of Mr. Henry Holmes. Beethoven's fifth quartet, Mendelssohn's quartet in E flat, Handel's Suite de Pièces, and other kindred works were in the programme. Mr. W. Macfarren appeared as solo pianist, and Miss Marion Severn as vocalist. Of these concerts we shall speak more at length in a future notice.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FOR THE CRYSTAL PALACE DISTRICT.—A site has been secured at Forest-hill, centrally situated for Sydenham and Dulwich. Funds have been collected, which, when supplemented by contributions from a distance, will enable the church to be erected immediately, and thus provide accommodation much required, and which Scotchmen, Presbyterians, and others in all quarters are earnestly solicited to aid in providing. The Rev. Thomas Russell, M.A., late of Albion Church, Finsbury-pavement, takes the pastorate. The hon. treasurer, F. J. Horniman, Esq., Tarnen House, Forest-hill, will thankfully acknowledge subscriptions; which can also be paid to the Consolidated Bank, Threadneedle-street, London.

EDUCATION CONFERENCE.

A CONFERENCE of gentlemen interested in the subject of education was held on Monday, under the auspices of the Society of Arts, at the society's house, John-street, Adelphi, "to discuss the best means for providing throughout the country a national system of education, whereby every child in the kingdom may have opportunities of obtaining elementary instruction of a character at least equal to that which is within the reach of all in Prussia, Saxony, and Switzerland, and other Continental countries." The meeting was attended by some of the more prominent promoters of education.

Lord Henry Lennox, M.P., on taking the chair, said, the object of the National League and of the National Education Union was to place education within the reach of every child in the United Kingdom. The Society of Arts went beyond that. They believed that it was possible to add for certain classes an advanced system of secondary education as well; and that the object was to be best attained by supplementing the present system. They believed that education could not be put on a proper basis unless they had an initiative and not a passive department of the Government, who should have the direction of grants, not only for education, but for national museums and galleries, and other institutions of that kind. With regard to providing new or additional schools, they thought an official inspector should report as to the necessity of new schools in particular localities; that the locality should provide the schools, and if it neglected its duty in this respect, then the Government should build the school, raising the cost of the building by a rate on the locality; they also thought the department should have the power of organising schools on the half-time system, or something of that kind. In some schools of this kind, in London and elsewhere, great results had followed. Compulsion they thought inadvisable and impractical. In the rural districts it would be a great hardship. They thought that the only classes on which compulsion should be exercised should be homeless boys. They disapproved altogether of the abolition of fees in national schools. They thought that where a master had a fixed salary he was apt to go to sleep, and his scholars were apt to do the same. They wished to see a liberal scale of payment by results which would stir up the ambition of the master, and induce him to stimulate the energy of his pupils. The coming session appeared to be a fit and proper time when some Government Bill might be passed on this question; and when he saw gentlemen of both parties in the House of Commons agreed on general principles, and merely disagreeing upon some slight details, he thought they had got almost to the end of the race at last.

Sir John Pakington moved the first resolution—"That, in order to secure the education of every child in England and Wales, on which all parties are agreed, in existing or additional schools, it is necessary that a department of Government, responsible to Parliament, be constituted for the purpose, and that Parliament should be asked to give large and general powers to that department." He said he hoped and believed that they were on the eve of the settlement of this great national question on a broad and liberal basis. He was not a member of either the National League or the National Education Union; but he wished to express his gratitude to both those associations for the stimulus they had given to the discussion on the question. He hoped that they would carry on the discussion in no party spirit, political or religious. He had never been an enthusiastic supporter of the existing system of national education in this country. He had always regarded it as a clumsy contrivance, but it had lasted so long, and had done so much, that no serious man would now propose to uproot that system. He thought they should supplement it. There were three great requirements which were essential to make the present system what it ought to be:—First, They must have additional schools. The number of additional schools required was not so great as was generally supposed; but there were localities where new schools were pressing required, and where they could not rely on voluntary effort to supply the want that existed. The second requirement was that, in a large measure, the schools should be better, and that the attendance of children at school should be more regular, and their stay at school should be longer. The question of compulsion should be dealt with cautiously; but he hoped the Government would not shrink from resorting at least to indirect compulsion; and that, on the principle of the Factory Acts, the legislation of the Government would be so shaped that the children of the humbler classes should not be allowed to cease their attendance at school until they arrived at least at the age of fourteen. He thought there ought to be religious instruction, with every respect for the rights of conscience; that the denominational system, as regarded religious education, should be left as it was, but with this important provision, that wherever Government aid was extended an effective conscience clause should be an indispensable condition. With regard to the other schools there might be some difficulty, but if they had a strong Government to carry a good measure, the difficulty would disappear. The right hon. gentleman then went on to contend for the necessity of an organised Government department which should have the charge of the education of the country. He, for one, should enter on this question knowing no party but one, and that party was the millions of children spread over this country, whose future in this world and the next mainly depended on the training which was provided for them, and upon whose future, so long as they remained in this world, the prosperity, welfare, and happiness of this great empire must mainly depend.

Canon Melvill seconded. He insisted on the necessity of religious teaching in the schools, by which he explained that he did not mean ecclesiastical teaching. He disapproved of dogmatic teaching in our schools. He believed it to be positively against the direction of their Prayer Book that they should teach the sacramental system to children. All that he desired was that the children should be taught religion.

Mr. C. Buxton expressed his gratification that the religious difficulty had almost vanished. All parties were now in favour of an effective conscience clause being imposed wherever Government assistance was given to schools. He thought new schools should be erected by means of Government grants; but he could not acquiesce in the proposal of the Birmingham League that the whole country should be divided into educational districts, and that in each of them the ratepayers should be compelled to provide education for all the children in that district. Nor was he in favour of the abolition of the school fees paid by the parents, which amounted to half a million a year. He should be in favour of compulsory education, but for the enormous difficulties in the way; and he thought all they could do in that direction was to extend the principle of the Factory Acts, and even that ought to be done tentatively and gradually.

Mr. Corrance thought that no local machinery would be competent to meet the case of remote rural districts where there was an indifference to education; but towns should have the power to levy local rates.

The Rev. W. Rogers said they were all agreed that religion must be taught in the schools; but the great difficulty was that nobody had ever defined what was meant by religion. He sat on the Royal Commission on Education for three or four years. They examined the inspectors, who all agreed that the people did not care what schools they sent their children to, whether it was a Church school or a British and Foreign school, so long as they got a good education. He believed that the difficulty of the religious question was not so much felt among the people themselves. The people, he believed, desired that general religion should be taught, but not dogmatic religion.

Mr. Wright, of Birmingham, said the people of that town considered it of the highest importance that there should be a distinct educational department of the Government. It should be as obligatory on every parent to see that his child was educated as it was that he should provide him with food. He did not think they should adopt an indirect method of compulsion by extending the Factory Acts. He believed these Acts had been a great failure,

and that at the present moment there were not more than 230 children at school in Birmingham under their influence.

The Dean of Canterbury said, with regard to what had been said, that the religious difficulty was fast vanishing, and that the conscience clause had been almost universally adopted as the solution of that difficulty, he might remark that there was a friend of his, a certain Archdeacon, who had said he should like to see a reasonable being who could defend the conscience clause. The two great principles which required reconciliation were these—the State was bound to take care that every child was religiously educated. That was one principle, and the other was that the State had no manner of business to interfere with what religion was taught. He should like to hear if the State could make its way through that difficulty.

Mr. T. H. Bustard, who avowed himself a member of the Education League, contended that when schools were supported out of the public funds secular and religious education should be divided. There was no difficulty with regard to the religious education in the Birkbeck schools in London, or in the British and Foreign schools in Manchester and Glasgow. He came from the benighted county of Dorset, where many people were perfectly indifferent as to education, and would not send their children to school unless they were compelled. He thought, however, if compulsion were to be resorted to, the schools should be free.

The resolution was then put and carried unanimously. On the second resolution a lengthened discussion arose as to the religious question. The resolution, which was moved by Professor Owen in a speech in which he dwelt on the advantages of scientific training, was as follows:—"That the means of instruction in reading, writing, arithmetic, with moral training, and, where practicable, in drawing, singing, and drill, be provided for all, and encouragement given by Government to the higher branches of general culture, science (especially that bearing on health), and art; and that infant, primary, and secondary schools, colleges, and universities receiving Government aid be helped to act in union as far as possible as parts of a system."

To this Canon Melvill moved an amendment to insert after the word "arithmetic" the words "religious instruction."

This amendment was seconded by the Rev. Dr. Barry, who, however, proposed to qualify it by inserting the words "wherever possible." He insisted on the necessity of teaching religion in the schools; but said he would not exclude the Government aid from secular schools if the secular party had sufficient energy to found schools. He accepted the proposition that there should be a conscience clause; but there should be reciprocity in this matter; and, if there were secular schools, ample facilities should be given for giving religious instruction out of school to children whose parents desired it.

The Rev. J. D'Orsay followed, arguing that the religious instruction should be divided between the clergyman and the schoolmaster.

Mr. Hyde Clarke deprecated the amendment; and Professor Owen asked for the definition of religion before they were called upon to give an opinion upon the amendment.

Mr. S. Morley believed that the people at large were determined to prevent their children being used for the purpose of increasing the numbers of any religious denomination; and with that feeling he heartily sympathised. He wished to leave religion free, and he had not the least fear of secular schools. If the people called for them, let there be schools in which, if they pleased, by legislative enactments, religion should be excluded; but he entered his protest against any attempt to prevent the existing schools maintaining the religious principle in those schools. He believed that a system of religious teaching might be secured which would give confidence to all religious denominations.

Mr. C. Buxton was strongly in favour of religious instruction being given in the schools; but thought aid should be given by the Government to secular schools where the people preferred them.

Dr. Bennett said he had mixed a great deal with the working classes, who thought the State had nothing to do with the moulding of their religious opinions, and they were rather disposed to insist on the separation of the Church from the State. "Unsectarianism" was not a word strong enough for them. They required that the education should be secular.

After some further discussion, the amendment was withdrawn; on the suggestion of Sir J. Pakington the words "due regard to religious instruction" being substituted, and in that amended form the resolution was carried by a large majority.

The next resolution was on the subject of compulsory education, and on this subject a resolution, moved by Mr. Bowring and seconded by Mr. Redgrave, was agreed to, which declared that no child should be hired for labour who is under a given age, and not receiving satisfactory instruction, and that compulsory attendance at school should be obtained by dealing with the question according to the principle of the Factory Acts.

On the motion of the Rev. Dr. Barry, seconded by the Rev. J. Oakley, a further resolution was agreed to:—"That existing efficient denominational schools should continue to receive Parliamentary grants, subject to the acceptance of a conscience clause and to proper Government inspection, and that existing training schools for teachers be consolidated as early as practicable, and, if need be, enlarged, and that a wider system of instruction be adopted in them."

It was also resolved, on the motion of the Dean of Canterbury, seconded by the Mayor of Portsmouth and supported by Sir John Pakington, "That the school fees ought to be maintained and be applicable to the augmentation of the income of the teachers, and that the fees of destitute and pauper children ought to be paid out of the rates."

On the motion of Sir Walter Stirling, seconded by Mr. Holmes, a vote of thanks was then given to Lord Henry Lennox for his conduct in the chair, which closed the proceedings.

OBITUARY.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR C. A. WINDHAM, K.C.B.—Information has been received of the sudden death of Lieutenant-General Sir Charles Ashe Windham, K.C.B., commanding the forces in Canada—a post he had held since October, 1867. He accompanied the British Army to the Crimea as Assistant Quartermaster-General, and was conspicuous for his daring gallantry at the assault on the Redan. He succeeded General Simpson as chief of the staff when that officer took the command of the army on the death of Lord Raglan, and was promoted to the rank of Major-General and created a Companion of the Order of the Bath for his services during the campaign. During the Indian Mutiny he commanded a division under Lord Clyde. He was afterwards appointed to the command of the Lahore division. In 1865 he was nominated a Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath. He represented East Norfolk in the House of Commons from April, 1857, to April, 1859; and was appointed Colonel of the 46th Foot in June, 1861. Sir Charles Windham was the fourth son of the late Vice-Admiral Wm. Windham, of Felbrigg Hall, Norfolk. He was born in 1810, and was twice married; first, in 1849, to Marianne, daughter of Admiral Sir John P. Beresford, Bart., K.C.B. (she died in 1865), and, secondly, in 1866, to Charlotte, eldest daughter of the late Rev. Henry Des Vœux.

MAJOR-GENERAL LAST.—Major-General Edward Last, formerly of the 99th Foot, and afterwards Lieutenant-Colonel of the 21st Foot (North British Fusiliers), died on the 27th ult. He entered the Army as Ensign in 1814, and commanded the troops in the southern districts of New Zealand during the native rebellion of 1846. He was present at the engagement at Bulcott's Farm, in the valley of the Hutt, May 16, 1846, and commanded at the capture of the rebel leader, Te Rauparata, and the disarming of his followers in July of the same year; he also commanded the combined forces at the battle of the Mookiwi, Aug. 6, when the rebels were compelled to retreat, and ultimately dispersed. He was highly commended in the despatches of Lieutenant-Governor Grey. He

retired on full pay in 1858, and was in his seventy second year when he died.

DR. BRIGHT.—The medical profession has just lost one of its oldest and most eminent members. Dr. John Bright died on the 1st inst., at the age of eighty-seven. The deceased gentleman was an M.D. of Oxford. He was formerly physician to the Westminster Hospital, and had a great reputation among the members of his profession. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians in 1809.

GENERAL COLEBROOKE.—The death is announced of Sir William M'Bean George Colebrooke K.H., C.B., Colonel Commandant of the First Brigade of Royal Artillery. He was a son of Colonel R. W. Colebrooke, R.A., and was born in 1787. In early life he served with the Royal Artillery and on the staff in the East Indies and Java. He was a General in the Army, and was for some time Governor of the Windward and Leeward Islands, the Bahamas, New Brunswick and Barbadoes.

AN UNRULY LITIGANT.

The case, "Jones v. Bewicke," was tried on Monday, in the Court of Common Pleas, before Mr. Justice Byles and a special jury.

This was an action brought against Mr. Bewicke, of Threepwood Hall, Northumberland, whose name has frequently been before the public, to recover damages for slander and perjury. The defendant pleaded that the alleged defamatory matter was true.

Mr. Serjeant Sleight and Mr. Philbrick were for the plaintiff, and the defendant appeared in person.

Mr. Serjeant Sleight, in opening the case, said that the defendant was a gentleman of position and wealth, and was in the commission of the peace for Northumberland. The plaintiff was a solicitor at Llanelli, in Wales, where he had been in practice for about thirty-five years, and held some public appointments there. In 1861 the defendant met the plaintiff's daughter, and, in consequence of what took place between them, the defendant got into communication with the plaintiff. The defendant, on July 13, 1861, wrote to the plaintiff, telling him that he was sincerely attached to Miss Jones; that he was in possession of an income net of £1000 per annum, besides great expectations from his father, who was in the enjoyment of an income of £6000 per annum; that he had himself personal property amounting to between £4000 and £5000. A marriage took place, and not long afterwards the wife took proceedings in the Divorce Court against her husband, and Lord Penzance decreed a judicial separation. Permanent alimony of £250 a year was also ordered. When the decree was made, the defendant turned round and said to the Judge, "Her father is a bankrupt swindler, over head and ears in debt." On Feb. 7, 1869, the defendant wrote to Messrs. Fearon, Claybon, and Fearon, who were connected with the litigation, a letter, in which he said, "Mr. Bewicke thinks it better that some proof should be given of the existence of the petitioner, Mrs. Elizabeth Lucy, eldest daughter of old Perjury Jones, of Goring-place, Llanelli, South Wales, as the old pander of that dirty brothel the Divorce Court has no power to make Mr. B. pay for a dead person. Such proof would prevent Mr. Bewicke writing to Llanelli to procure such information. Such information twice a year would be quite enough. Mr. B. need not add that he would not object to pay the funeral expenses, though under no legal obligation to do so, in case of the prior decease of the petitioner. He would even stretch a point, and bury old Perjury Jones too. Mr. B. writes the above to show how little personal malice enters into the composition of his character." On March 15 he wrote to Messrs. Fearon, Claybon, and Fearon, "Mr. Bewicke incloses a cheque for £62 10s., one quarter's permanent alimony, decreed by that old pander of the dirty brothel to old Perjury Jones's wench." On June 15 the defendant sent a cheque for the alimony, and the envelope was addressed "E. L. Perjury Jones, old B. Perjury Jones, Goring-place, Llanelli, South Wales." Upon this Messrs. Fearon, Claybon, and Fearon wrote demanding an apology and an admission that there was no truth in the charge of perjury; but the only reply was a repetition of the charge.

Mr. Jones, the plaintiff, was examined, and he stated that there was no truth in the charges made against him. He added that what he had said in the Divorce Court as to the defendant's means was from what the defendant himself had told him.

The defendant cross-examined him at length as to the statements which he had made in the Divorce Court in reference to the amount of the defendant's property. He also questioned him as to other matters, and in a way that caused the Judge to interfere more than once.

Mr. Justice Byles at length said: I tell you, if you do not conduct yourself with proper respect to the Court, I shall commit you.

Mr. Bewicke: I think that I had better leave the court, if you are going on in that way. I have had quite enough villany practised in the courts of law.

Mr. Justice Byles: Send for the tipstaff. This officer thereupon came into court, and stood near the defendant.

Mr. Bewicke, after some further observations, said to the Judge: Why do you not say that you want to "malversate" justice, and tell me to leave the court?

Mr. Justice Byles: Repeat that observation, that I may see if I rightly heard it.

Mr. Bewicke: I will not repeat it.

Mr. Justice Byles: I think you said that I would not accord you justice. Tipstaff, take that man into custody.

The tipstaff attempted to arrest the defendant, who, however, made signs of resistance.

Mr. Justice Byles: If you do not surrender, the police will be sent for.

Mr. Bewicke: Well, then, I withdraw the words, and apologise. I cannot do more.

Mr. Justice Byles: I accept your apology. Mr. Martin, a shorthand-writer, was called to prove the words spoken in the Divorce Court. He said that they were spoken on an appeal, and in the course of Mr. Bewicke's speech.

Mr. Justice Byles: I shall rule that there is no case for the plaintiff upon the first count.

Lord Penzance was then called. He appeared upon the bench and was about to be sworn.

Mr. Justice Byles, however, interposed, and said to the defendant, "Before Lord Penzance is sworn, I ask you whether you propose to ask him as to anything that took place upon the trial in the Divorce Court. You have said that you have given him notice to produce his notes."

Mr. Bewicke: I propose to ask him what the plaintiff swore.

Mr. Justice Byles: I object to that question being put, or to his Lordship giving any evidence upon the subject.

Mr. Bewicke: On what ground?

Mr. Justice Byles: If you had not been so hasty you would have heard. A Judge cannot be examined as to what was sworn before him at a trial.

Mr. Bewicke: Then I shall not require Lord Penzance's attendance.

The defendant was then himself sworn; and, in reference to the statement of the plaintiff, that he had only said in the Divorce Court as to the defendant's property what the defendant himself had told him, he stated that no such conversation had taken place.

Several of the defendant's tenants were also called for the purpose of deposing that they did not pay so much rent as had been stated in the Divorce Court.

Mr. Justice Byles having summed up, The jury, after considering the matter for a short time, found a verdict for the plaintiff—damages, £500.

Mr. Justice Byles: There is, gentlemen, something that I ought to tell you. I have taken the trouble to see the learned Judge's notes, and there I see that the plaintiff stated distinctly that he only knew the extent of the defendant's property from what the defendant himself had told him.

A WEAK DEFENCE.

"ELLSON V. THE METROPOLITAN RAILWAY COMPANY."

THIS was an action to recover compensation for an injury received by the plaintiff while travelling on the defendants' railway on May 25 last. The defendants pleaded "Not guilty." The case was tried, on Tuesday, before Mr. Justice Byles and a special jury. Mr. J. C. Appleby appeared for the plaintiff; and Mr. J. J. Powell, Q.C., and Mr. J. O. Griffiths for the defendants.

The plaintiff, it appeared, is a washerwoman, and, being acquainted with a Miss Bennett and another lady who were professional performers at the Metropolitan Concert-Hall in Edgware-road, she received from one of them a ticket of admission to the performance, and, accompanied by those ladies, was proceeding by the defendants' railway by the 8.15 p.m. train from Westminster on May 25 last for the purpose of seeing the performance. At one of the stations on the road some passengers got out of the third-class carriage in which she was riding, the train started again, and the guard slammed the door to. The effect of the slamming of the door was to bring down one of the lamps, which fell with the iron rim upon the plaintiff's shoulder and arm, bruising both considerably. Next day her arm was swollen and stiff, and her shoulder painful, and she was unable to perform her usual work, and, not getting better, she sent for a doctor the day after, who attended her some time, and charged £2 for his attendance. She was unable to work for a month, and demanded compensation from the railway company for her injury and loss of work. When the lamp fell the guard called the brakeman, and the brakeman called a porter, who swept out the broken glass from the carriage. The lamp weighed about 21b. The plaintiff was corroborated in her statement by one of her female friends who was with her, and by the doctor who attended her.

The defence set up was that the whole account of the transaction given by the plaintiff was a fabrication and a trumped-up story. There had been a lamp broken that night about nine o'clock, and this she had apparently heard of; but it was at a different station and at a different time, and the account of the passengers in the carriage at the time did not correspond with the plaintiff's account; and it was very unlikely there should be two such accidents that night. Different guards and servants of the company were called to prove the facts as to the other accident, when the plaintiff was not there at all, and various guards of the different trains running that night from Westminster to Edgware-road between eight and nine p.m. to prove that no such accident happened to the plaintiff; but the guard and brakeman of the 8.15 p.m. train, by which the plaintiff went, were not called. It was stated that they had been dismissed in November last for some misconduct, at which time it also appeared that the present action was placed in the cause list and stood for trial; nor was the porter called whom the plaintiff said had swept out the glass.

His Lordship having carefully gone through the evidence, the jury retired, and, after being absent a considerable time, returned a verdict for the plaintiff—Damages, £20.

A LESSON TO RAILWAY TICKET CLERKS.—An action brought against the London and South-Western Railway Company for false imprisonment was tried in the Court of Queen's Bench, last Saturday.

Mr. Allan, a furrier in Regent-street, objected to take a French ten-centime piece in change from a booking-clerk at the Twickenham station, and demanded a penny instead. Some angry words on both sides followed, and the clerk at length gave the plaintiff in charge to a railway policeman, who took him to the police-station, where the clerk charged him with attempting to steal a penny from the till. The plaintiff was locked up all night, and in the morning taken before the magistrates, who at once dismissed the charge. The company, it was stated, had since discharged both the clerk and the policeman. The learned Judge told the jury that the question was whether the clerk was acting for his own ends or from spite towards the plaintiff, in neither of which cases could the railway company be liable; but if they considered the clerk was acting in furtherance, as he supposed, of his employers' interest, the company must certainly pay liberal and substantial damages. In the latter case, he should reserve leave to the defendants to take the opinion of the Court as to whether there was any evidence upon which to base such a conclusion. The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff—damages, £100.

POLICE.

THE NEW CAB LAWS.—At Bow-street, last Saturday, a cabdriver named Emmett was summoned by a cab-proprietor named Crocker for plying for hire at the Charing-cross railway station, that not being a stand for carriages appointed by the Commissioners of Police. The case for the complainant was conducted by Mr. Fry, and Mr. Wontner defended on behalf of the South-Eastern Railway Company. The summons was purposely taken out in order to ascertain whether a certain class of cabdrivers, called privileged drivers, were allowed to ply for hire within the railway stations, they not being stands sanctioned by the Commissioners of Police. The evidence having been heard in support of the complaint, Mr. Wontner contended that railway stations were private property. The public resorted there, but only under certain contracts, or upon business. A station in that case was clearly not a public road or street. Mr. Flowers quoted the opinion of Sir Frederick Thesiger and Sir Fitzroy Kelly on the subject, which entirely coincided with Mr. Wontner's argument, and ultimately dismissed the summons.

At the Westminster Police Court, on the same day, Henry Parker, a cabdriver, was summoned by Mr. Larking, of 90, St. George's-square, Pimlico, for overcharge. At a little after twelve on the night of the 24th ult. a cabdriver, while passing along, was hired, and drove complainant's grown-up daughter and two children of twelve and fourteen years of age to his house, which was within half a mile. He was paid a shilling, but demanded sixpence more, and, thrusting his foot within the hall-door, refused to leave till he had it. Defendant denied that he was the driver, and declared that he took his cab home to his master's yard before twelve that night. Complainant's daughter said she was certain that the number of the badge shown her when she paid the extra sixpence was the same as that now worn by the defendant. She copied it when it was held out to her by the driver, and now produced the paper. The driver also gave her a ticket. In the course of a rigid inquiry by Mr. Selfe, it was elicited that the defendant formerly drove for a master named Bobbett, and at the time of this hiring for an employer named Phillips, and the ticket given the lady bore the name of Bobbett upon it, and was the identical number driven by defendant while in his employ. Mr. Selfe said it was quite clear that there was trickery in this transaction, and after what had been elicited he should certainly convict the defendant under the old law, which gave 6d. for the first mile and 6d. for an extra person. Under the Streets Act it was stipulated that there should be no fare under a shilling for a cab taken from an appointed standing-place; but that did not apply in this case, as the cab was not hired from one. Defendant was then fined 20s., and ordered to pay the 6d. excess and costs.

At Marlborough-street, on Tuesday, James Cook, cabman, was summoned by a Mr. Lawrence for taking more than his legal fare. The complainant hired the defendant near Regent's Park, and discharged him at Regent-circus. The distance was under two miles, and the driver demanded and received 1s. 6d. as his fare, stating that he was entitled to 1s. for the first mile and 6d. for every succeeding mile. Mr. Tyrwhitt said the defendant was in error, but allowance might fairly be made, as the new rules appeared not to be understood. The defendant must refund the 6d. and pay a fine of 10s.

BRUTAL OUTRAGE AT MANCHESTER.—Captain Madden, of the 8th (King's Own) Regiment, was taken before the magistrates at Manchester, on Monday, charged with a ferocious and unprovoked attack on two gentlemen, at the Queen's Hotel, in that city, on Saturday evening. It appears that Captain Madden has been staying at Manchester some time, and has been addressing Orange and Conservative meetings in that city and neighbourhood. Last Saturday evening he was in the coffee-room of the Queen's Hotel. In the same room, sitting not far from him, were Mr. Geo. Brown and Mr. J. R. Clark, of New York, two well-known American buyers of Manchester goods for large firms in the United States. Mr. Brown and Mr. Clark were at tea, and no words passed between them and Captain Madden. Mr. Brown was reading a letter to his friend, over which they chatted and laughed a good deal. Whilst so engaged Captain Madden left his seat, and is supposed to have gone to a private room. In a short time he returned, armed with a heavily-loaded life-preserver, and, going up behind Mr. Clark, aimed a blow at him, the life-preserver descending with great force on the back of his skull. Fortunately the blow was so directed that it glanced off the skull; but it laid open a frightful wound of the scalp, which was cut clean to the skull. Captain Madden then rushed upon Mr. Brown, aiming a blow at his forehead. Mr. Brown, however, by the dexterous use of a chair, intercepted the blow, which was broken, and took effect only on one side of the mouth, so as to cut one of his lips. Some men waiters interfered, and prevented the assault proceeding further; but it required four people to hold the Captain, owing to his ungovernable excitement, until a policeman could be obtained. He was then taken to the lock-up, where two brother officers gave bail for his appearance. Mr. Clark, who narrowly escaped with his life, was not able to appear before the magistrates, but the case was partly heard. Mr. Brown and one of the waiters giving evidence to the above effect. The prisoner expressed his sorrow, but said it was not he but that thing itself (the life-preserver), which, being loaded, went off of itself. Mr. Headlam (chairman of the Bench) said the prisoner did not appear to be in his right mind, and remanded the case for a week, in order that the prisoner's friends might be communicated with. He also directed that the surgeon to the gaol should examine him as to his mental condition.

EXTRAORDINARY ROBBERY FROM A BANK CLERK.—About eleven o'clock in the forenoon, last Saturday, Bank of England notes representing nearly £10,000 were stolen from the person of a clerk of Messrs. Barnetts, Hoares, Hanburys, and Co., the bankers of Lombard-street. At the time of the occurrence the clerk in question was trans-

acting business at the Birkbeck Deposit Bank, Southampton-buildings, Chancery-lane, and he had in his possession, attached to his body by a strong steel chain, a bill-case containing bank-notes of the value of £9950. On reaching the bank he placed the case on the counter, and waited until his turn came to be attended to. There were a number of other persons present, and the bank being now under repair, the space in which business is carried on is somewhat abridged. While he was waiting some person touched him on the shoulder, telling him he had dropped something, and called his attention to a piece of paper on the floor. This he stooped to pick up, but found that it did not belong to him. On standing up he thought he saw a hand leaving his bill-case, and he at once examined it, but the bank-notes were missing. The persons standing beside him were not such as to excite suspicion, and in the street he could see no one running away. The stolen notes were at once stopped at the Bank of England. There were eight notes of £1000 each, dated Oct. 28, 1869, and numbered 82,512, 82,513, 82,514, 82,515, 82,305, 82,306, 82,307, and 82,308; one of £500, dated Nov. 27, and numbered 99,383; three of £300, dated July 12, and numbered 20,991, 20,992, and 22,418; one for £200, dated Aug. 11, and numbered 29,713; one for £100, dated Sept. 10, and numbered 66,693; four for £50 each, dated Dec. 9, and numbered 26,513, 16,836, 31,571, and 13,163; two for £20 each, dated Dec. 8, and numbered 92,140 and 99,255; and one for £10, dated Oct. 6, and numbered 60,364. A reward of £1000 has been offered for the apprehension of the thief and the recovery of the notes; and the matter is placed in the hands of Messrs. Mullens, solicitors, Cheapside, representing the Bankers' Protection Association. Information has been given to Colonels Fraser and Henderson, and every arrangement has been made to ensure the arrest of the thief.

PLAYERS AND PLAYWRIGHTS.—A case which will be read with interest in the theatrical profession was heard, last Saturday, in the Court of Common Pleas. Mrs. C. E. Cameron, formerly Miss Hickson, having prepared that which was technically known as the *scenarium*, or skeleton of a play, employed a dramatic author named Leslie to clothe it in words. The piece was known as "The Necklace of Pearls," and Mrs. Cameron's complaint was that, although she had paid the defendant for the performance of the work, the great scene of the play was so mangled as to be deprived of all interest. She returned it to be altered, but Mr. Leslie kept it until he was threatened with legal proceedings. It was the practice of a lady to have her own piece when she was on a "starring" engagement, and nothing could be done without it. She therefore claimed damages for the detention of the play. The jury gave Mrs. Cameron £40, the amount which she had paid to the defendant for the work done.

ROCHEFORT'S RELATIONS.—Rochefort's relations profit by his political attitude and obtain snug berths in the Administration. For several months they have been continually reminding the Emperor that the editor of the *Lanterne* is regarded as a black sheep by his kindred. The poor old Marquis de Rochefort, who had lost all his fortune through some bad speculations, in 1850, sticks to his son, who, it appears, derives his opinions altogether from his mother. The Viscountess de Luçay was lately appointed to a high post in the *Maison Impériale* de St. Denis, in consequence of her repudiation of her kinsman. Count de Rochefort, another of the imprisoned deputy's relations, is gazetted to a Secretary-Generalship of Prefecture. He went last Sunday to the Tuileries, to make his bow (kissing of hands does not exist here) on his appointment. The Emperor was gracious, almost jocular. "Count," he said, "you are a relation of my best enemy" (*intime ennemi*). "Sire, when he was at the Hôtel de Ville, he thought me too poor a sprig of nobility to avow me." "But since he has become a Republican?" "Oh, Sire, he confesses the relationship, but he repudiates me." "So that," rejoined his Majesty, "you are not likely to be troubled with a visit from him at your quarters in the prefecture."

EMPLOYMENT IN THE UNITED STATES.—Those who believe in the United States as an inexhaustible field of emigration should take note of a few facts just published. From various American papers we gather that there are 50,000 workmen out of work in New York, and 100,000 in the rural districts of New York State. In Chicago the tale of the unemployed reaches nearly 20,000, and similar reports are made from towns and rural districts all along the Northern States. The United States have of late been Protectionists. It would appear, therefore, that Protection does not mean full employment for the working-man. But Protection does mean high prices; and side by side with the reign of high prices we have the following items with regard to wages:—Mrs. A. makes vests at 7d. each, and by working fourteen hours a day, Sundays included, can earn about 8s. a week. She pays 3s. a week for an attic and has two children to support. She has eaten meat once only since "Thanksgiving Day." Kate A. works at shirt-making, and can just earn 8s. a week. She has to support her grandmother, and, to afford the old woman a little broth, she "has often lived for weeks on bread and water." There is a dark side to the picture of life in the United States.—*Echo*.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, FEB. 5.

BANKRUPTS.—J. CUNLIFFE, Leigh, brickmaker—H. and J. DARRAGH, Bradford, commission merchants—W. FISHER, Lewisham, decorator—W. C. GLOVER, Scarborough, solicitor—J. and H. HITCHIN, Sonington, lacemakers—ROYLWELL TIN PLATE COMPANY, Holywell—W. KNIGHT, Horwich, brick and tile manufacturer—J. PACKARD, Hoxne, surgeon—T. POTTER, Lock, boot and shoe manufacturer—T. RISON, Tiverton, corn and seed merchant—F. SOUTHCOATES, Everton, joiner—J. STRANASHAN, Liverpool, provision-dealer—J. GOWARD, Stoke Newington—B. GRIME, Blackburn, commission agent—J. T. LINES, Torpore-le-Soken, veterinary surgeon—L. SARGENT, Rochdale, grocer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—P. KENNEDY, Mill of Byth, farmer—H. MORRISON, Dingwall, gunsmith—F. GRANT, salt-lutina, farmer—A. M'FARLANE, Glasgow, fruit merchant—G. GRAY, Portsoy, wood merchant—E. LONG, Forres, painter—J. ROY, Nairn, carpenter.

TUESDAY, FEB. 8.

BANKRUPTS.—J. BROWN, Letchford—S. FLETCHER, Preston, builder—T. F. JONES, Sheffield, ironworker—J. STODDART, Bolam, Durham, farmer—J. THOMAS, Rochester and Chatham, auctioneer, wine, spirit, and tea merchant—C. H. WHAITES, North Elmham, brickmaker, coal merchant, and commission agent.

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